



# ELDRED UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

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*James A. Cannistraci, Pastor*

March 19, 2020

Greetings Dear Friends,

I begin by sharing the reality that life changed dramatically in the past few days. Things are so different today than they were even yesterday. We have all learned new words like COVID-19 (coronavirus)! There are new concepts to understand like "social distancing"! Truth be told, this can all be a bit overwhelming and frightening at times.

However, one thing has not changed, and never will change! That unchanging reality is found in the words of Scripture that are a source of grounding and comfort for us as followers of the Risen Christ:

"God created humankind in His image, in the image of God He created them"  
- Genesis 1:27 (New Revised Standard Version)

I believe with every fiber of my being that God will care for us in the midst of all the frightening and changing circumstances of life. Indeed, if God created us, He will care for us eternally if we look to Him!

**Another change is that I'm on FaceBook. That is a miracle for me! But I want to stay connected to my dear friends and share our faith journey together in these days ahead by all means possible.** Many thanks my "Guardian Angel of Websites... and now FaceBook", Carolyn Shank (insert the link to your FaceBook and website page) Carolyn has helped develop websites for 3 churches I've served in the past, and now she's helping create a website for our Eldred UMC church family.

Friends, On march 17, 2020, our Bishop, Cynthia Moore- Koikoi recommended that all western Pennsylvania United Methodist Churches follow the guidelines presented by Governor Wolf, President Trump and the appropriate health officials to help alleviate the spread of the coronavirus.

With that in mind, our church office will be closed and worship services will be discontinued until further notice. However... we will be able to worship together this Sunday, March 22 via the miracles of technology and the ministry of Brother Blaine Miller! More to come!

Please contact me by cell phone at 412-496-5308 in the event of any pastoral emergency. I'll update this Facebook page regularly and you can message me as you feel led to reach out.

Please know our church family is keeping you in prayer and keeping the citizens of the world in prayer.

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**"This is what God asks of you, only this ... to act justly, to love tenderly,  
and to walk humbly with your God." Micah 6:8**

James A. Cannistraci  
Pastor



Open hearts. Open minds. Open doors.

**The people of the United Methodist Church**