

**TRINITY UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST**  
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Rev. Dr. Gerry Hanberry, Interim Pastor

**May 15, 2020**

**Dear Congregation:**

We continued to be “committed to community,” the community around us and our own church community.” This continues to be an imperative for the way we live our lives and seek to be church in these unsettling times.

Since March 16, 2020, we have sought new ways to be church and to worship together. For the past eight Sundays we have worshipped via zoom. Those who do not join zoom worship are given worship materials (bulletin, scripture and Pastor Gerry’s sermon) to worship on their own at home. The response has been fantastic. The faces that light up our computer and phone screens also light up our lives. Even so, most of us are anxious to return to our normal ways of worship in the sanctuary each Sunday. But more than that, folks are anxious about being in larger groups in public spaces like the sanctuary.

After careful consideration and much prayer and discussion, the consistory has decided to continue worship by zoom and at home AND NOT in person in the sanctuary until at least after June 14, 2020. The Officials of the Central Atlantic Conference of the UCC have strongly recommend this approach to living into the new phases of our lives together.

Even though Maryland Governor Hogan has announced churches and other houses of worship may resume in-person worship at no more than 50% capacity (without singing, etc. and with temperature testing and social distancing) the Consistory and Pastor Hanberry believe that given the demographics of our congregation and the remaining uncertainty about how “opening up,” will look, it is better to watch and learn how all this unfolds over the next five weeks.

Thus, we will continue to worship and hold all meetings the ways we have for the past weeks. We will of course continue to monitor the circumstances in which we live.

If you know anyone who needs assistance with shopping or other transportation needs **or is isolated, please let me know. *This is a great time to call your friends, other church members you miss seeing.*** Maybe this is good time to learn how to skype or facetime with each other.

Please know that we are a community of faith and love and even though we are not meeting together face to face, we keep our face turned toward the One we love and who loves us...the God revealed to us in Jesus Christ.

Robert Miller, President, TUCC Consistory

Pastor Gerry Hanberry

See other side...

## **Trinity U.C.C. Contact Information**

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Consistory President – Robert Miller  
Vice President – Doug Rhoten  
Secretary – Karen Haines  
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