Our Mission: To lead people to Jesus and help them grow as disciples

March 13, 2020

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

At the Mahomet United Methodist Church we take the health and well-being of our congregation, our staff, our community and our guests very seriously.

Yesterday in a conference call with the Champaign County Health Department I was told that at this point in the collaborative effort to slow and prevent the spread of the coronavirus (COVID19) in our area they are recommending that churches in the county do a few things. First, practice Social Distance; that is try to keep between 3-6 feet of personal space around each of us and to use only an elbow bump or a simple smile and hello to greet others. This is because the virus can be carried on our breath and by our sneezes or coughs that distance. Second, that no more than 50 people be in any gathering or grouping. This would minimize the size of any group affected. But also Third, if a group involves anyone in the 60+ age group with any of the underlying conditions like heart disease, Diabetes etc that compromise their immune systems the grouping should be 10 people or less.

Last night at the Church Council meeting the council after some conversation decided to have worship this week at the same times but to first encourage those in attendance to practice Social Distancing, to wash their hands and use the Hand Sanitizer that is in the Sanctuary and Welcome Area. We will also be making a couple of changes in the structure/order of worship to recognize our need for Social Distancing. If you are in the 60+ age group with any of the underlying health conditions, we encourage you to stay home and worship online with us. We will be sharing both services on our Facebook page at 8:30am and 10:45am.

As we live into this new reality I want to encourage you to remain calm, use your good judgement, and to be in prayer for each other and for those in our country and world who are being affected by this outbreak. Please also continue to support your leaders here in the church, in our community, in our nation and around the world as we walk into this new reality together.

Please stay tuned as you will be hearing more from me and our church leaders as this outbreak continues to move through our lives.

Yours in Christ.

Rev. Craig Sweet

Pastor