

FAQs Frequently Asked Questions about the Current Chapter in Our Common Life

How do I reach the Priest or Senior Warden?

Priest-in-charge, The Rev Julie D Bryant
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Senior Warden, Mr. Tom Reid
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Is the Church really closed?

NO! and Yes. Because the Church is the people of God, we aren't closed at all, just not meeting face to face. The building is closed to everyone except a handful of folks checking mail and making daily walkthrough visits - contact the Priest or Senior Warden if you need to get inside.

Where can I find my Church family?

We are meeting online to Worship, Study, Fellowship, and coordinate Service to the community. Please look for the schedule posted on the website at www.episcopalchurchtemecula.org.

How can I make a Pledge payment or other donation?

Four easy ways to answer that question...

1) tith.ly - On the Church website under GIVE/PLEDGE ONLINE. Click GIVE.

2) Paypal - Log onto your account, click SEND and enter

admin@episcopalchurchtemecula.org as the Send To.

3) Regular Mail - will be collected, counted, and deposited.

4) Bank Bill Pay - If you pay bills through your bank bill service, you can also have a check sent to the Church.

Saint Thomas of Canterbury, 44651 Avenida de Misiones, Temecula 92592

All Donations will be received as Pledges unless marked 'Additional Donation' so we can call you for additional information about where you'd like to designate the funds; if you can't indicate a preference, just call the church and we'll return your call.

What about the Preschool?

The Preschool has been unable to welcome students since March 13th. The Staff have cleared rooms and playgrounds to accommodate a lengthy closing and the cleaning we'll need to do when we reopen. Staff have been in touch with families regularly, and are making videos for students and families to stay connected. Additionally, the Director is working on a weekly Chapel offering.

The Priest and Bishop's Committee is in conversation with the Diocese about the financial impact of the Preschool closing, hoping to offer families who are struggling relief from Tuition payments; we'll have firm details soon.

How does all of this change affect our congregation's financial situation?

These are early days in what is hoped to be a temporary, and relatively quickly resolved, situation. We don't have all of the answers to such questions, and may not know what the long-term effect is for some time. We have done what we can for now to reduce costs, including pursuing temporary unemployment benefits for hourly staff, and asking for guidance from the Diocese about Preschool Tuition and the Promissory Note the Diocese holds for our property.\

If possible, we would ask that Pledges be kept current so that we can continue to operate with limited staff, and respond to requests for help that are going to become more urgent as the days progress.

Meanwhile, the Bishop's Committee will continue to update the congregation on multiple aspects of our common life, and to be available to you. The Bishop's Committee members are listed below.

Tom Reid, Senior Warden

Chantel Blas, Tess Crawford, Russell Higgins, Ann Little, Anne Meservey, Allan O'Neill, Warren Rippe', Frank Rojas, Lauren Walton

WHAT CAN I DO TO HELP?

Join us in daily prayer, regular worship and fellowship, and watch for opportunities to be of service. The Stephen's Ministers are coordinating calls to our most isolated and vulnerable members (contact is Deb Mitchell); and the Bishop's Committee will be overseeing a general check-in on everybody (contact is Tim Reid); Mother Julie welcomes additions to our schedule of offerings for fellowship, study, and service - let her know what you'd like to see us doing!

Get creative about how to bring joy and love to your piece of the world - wave at neighbors when you're out walking; wear a silly hat just to make the grocery clerk laugh; tip more than usual when you can for those take-out meals; call a friend to see what you can bring them when you go out for errands.

Use this time to focus on God, and hear what you're being called to do - listen for birdsong; pick up debris whether or not you left it behind; take care of yourself; remember that you may be a little 'rough around the edges' these days, too, so go easy on everybody else and you'll probably get the same in return.

The Rev. Julie D. Bryant, Priest-in-Charge, March 22, 2020