

Pastor's Log 11-4-20

I am sitting in my church study writing this the day after election day. I am reflecting on how deeply divided we are as a nation, as a people. I am aware that that sense of division reaches into the life of this congregation. I am also aware that at the heart of the gospel of Jesus Christ is the affirmation that nothing can separate us from the love of God, nothing, not even our own failings.

I am also conscious that from that affirmation of God's love comes a call and a challenge for you, for me, for all people of faith, and for all children of God (that means everyone). That call is to be reconciled to one another, and to live into a life that shares among all people the gifts of justice, mercy, peace, and love. Yes, those are ideals. But each one of those words carries deep implications for how we treat one another, how we treat those who disagree with us, how we care for the other in our midst. They are not concepts for some end of time theology, but are living actions we do to reveal the Kingdom of God already present in this world.

It may be days before we know the final results of the election. But, we do not need to wait to decide how we will live in response to whatever those results are. I shall continue, in all I do, continue to seek justice for all God's people, to do so with kindness and mercy, all while walking humbly with God.

On this day, I will leave you with some words from Martin Luther King, Jr.

But the end is reconciliation; the end is redemption; the end is the creation of the beloved community. It is this type of spirit and this type of love that can transform opposers into friends. It is this type of understanding goodwill that will transform the deep gloom of the old age into the exuberant gladness of the new age. It is this love which will bring about miracles in the hearts of men.  
*from "Facing the Challenge of a New Age," 1956*

In Christ's service,

*Pastor Paul*

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### **Congregational Meeting Called**

The Session has called for a meeting of the Congregation and Corporation of the Ewing - Covenant Presbyterian Church for the purpose of electing officers of the church, to be held immediately following worship on Sunday, November 22, 2020.

### **Wednesday Evening Visioning Gatherings**

On Wednesday evenings, November 11, 18, 25, and December 9, Pastor Paul's evening conversations will serve as the venue for a series of conversations seeking to hear the vision that Christ has for this congregation. Given who we are, and where we are, what do we understand that Christ wishes us to do. From these conversations will come the restructuring of how we do what we do, logos and images that will help us be recognized in the community, a name that captures our understanding of our relationship with Christ. But most importantly, this conversation will better help this congregation speak to the community around us of the depth and breadth, and height of God's presence with us.

The November 11 conversation will take place in the gathering with the Presbyterian Women, but all are welcome. Come to one and join them all. Here is the link and the dial in number.

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86079729283>

By phone dial 1 929 205 6099

Meeting ID: 860 7972 9283

### **Donations to assist family**

Last Sunday Pastor Paul announced the collection of clothing and furnishings to assist a family who lost their home to fire. The collection of those donations is on hold for now until the family is able to move into a more permanent home. At that time we will post the items the family needs, and clothing sizes.