

Saints of St. Stephen's

For many of us the past few weeks have been full of uncertainty and fear. However, I have confidence that with the leadership of our Bishop, and our Governor, as he follows the advice he is getting from health care professional at the commonwealth and national levels, we make it through this crisis unscathed.

Let us always remember the words from psalm 46 that; "God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble. Therefore we will not fear, though the earth be moved, and though the mountains be toppled into the depths of the sea; Though its waters rage and foam, and though the mountains tremble at its tumult. The LORD of hosts is with us; the God of Jacob is our stronghold."

Know that the Vestry and I are praying for each of you everyday.

I have been asked a number of question during the past two Sunday's we have been away from our church building. A lot of you have asked about pledges. As you are able mail your pledges to the church, drop them into the mail slot next to the main entrance of the church or use the bill pay option of your bank. The office will be staffed on Tuesdays and Thursday's, and the tellers will be in the church once a week to process your checks and get them to the bank. Also you can call the church anytime and your call will be returned with in 24hours.

As always I am available as you need. My email is wrfostersr@gmail.com and my phone is 757-510-5901.

Thank you so much for joining us at our ZOOM Morning Prayer services on Sunday and Noonday Services on Wednesday. We will continue those services as long as the crisis continues. If you have any suggestions on how we can serve you better please let me or one of the vestry members know.

Finally I'll leave you with this meditation on God's Presence from St. Augustine's Prayer Book.

God is everywhere. There is no place in heaven or in earth from which God is excluded. From the first moment of my existence to the present moment, I have been in God's presence. Everywhere. At all times. Often I forget this truth. Often I go about my life with no thought of God's nearness. But here, in this place and in these minutes, I will remember that I am in the presence of God.

May the Father of our Lord Jesus the Christ keep you close and secure today and in the day's to come.

Willis+