



What does Matthew 25 look like in your neighborhood?

St. Charles Presbyterian Church has been a Matthew 25 church since June 2019. However, we have followed the guidelines of a Matthew 25 Church for many years. We have done this under the name of **Helping Hearts and Hands to Others or H2O**. Many individuals have sent donations to the St Louis Food Bank. The Deacons sent \$300 to FISH, our local St. Charles/St. Peters Food pantry. One woman has made and sold cards with much of the proceeds going to FISH. Many of the purchased cards are being sent to church members and friends so that they might be uplifted in this time of separation. Another member spends her day Monday-Friday delivering groceries to homes. We are also working with Lindenwood to collect food items for Salvation Army. We work with Volunteers in Medicine which helps take care of health care needs for our homeless and low income neighbors.

We broadcast a service every Sunday at 10:30 which anyone may watch on You Tube. Members have told neighbors and friends about these informational and uplifting weekly services and offered them the code so they might worship with us. CD's are delivered to 6 members that do not have other technology.

Keeping a distance, wearing masks, and wanting to be safe has made it more difficult to reach out but all know the church office is open in the morning and, if possible, an individual's needs will be met.



Trinity U City Keeps Relationships Strong Despite Social Distancing

Fellowship is a key aspect of the spiritual experience at Trinity Presbyterian Church in University City, MO. So when the church began broadcasting Sunday worship services on Facebook, converted its weekly food pantry to a curbside/drive-by format and suspended all other forms of in-person gatherings in mid-March in response to public health concerns (and later governmental restrictions), leaders of various fellowship groups recognized members were longing to be together again, in one way or another.

For example, Trinity's Retired Men's Lunch Bunch had been meeting monthly for lunch at various area restaurants for at least 20 years. After its March lunch meeting was cancelled, the group decided to gather virtually using Zoom. "The group of men have strong relationships and we have always looked out for each other," said convenor John Roman. "Some have spouses and families to support them, but some are on their own. In this time of uncertainty and distancing, we wanted to stay in touch.

Similarly, the women's group, dubbed the "Kitchen Cabinet," is an integral part of the fabric of Trinity Presbyterian's church life, having met informally in its current incarnation since mid-2013. "We enjoyed the laughter and the connections renewed at our April gathering," Rava added. "So we decided to meet on the first and third Thursday mornings via Zoom for the next few months, or until we can be together in person.

"With God's grace, we trust Trinity will spring back to life after the pandemic as we continue to offer our gifts of ordinary kitchen wisdom, energy and experience to each other and to our cherished faith community."

Third Presbyterian Church custom made 4 filter PPE cloth logoed masks and distributed them to their members via a drive through by up. As the city opens back up we want our members safe with these masks in addition to saying thank you for continuing to be faithful in your giving positioning the ministry to constantly provide resources to our community.

They also partnered with David Corbitt Founder of Bespoke Apparel in Clayton, MO to donate Surgical Masks in the following quantities: 1600 Christian Hospitals; 500 Crystal Creek Health and Rehab Center; 250 Moline Acres Police Department; 250 Ferguson Police Department.

