

# Busti Federated Church

April 2020

A Church for the Community

Dear Friends of Busti Federated Church,

We find ourselves in the midst of unique and uncertain times, but even so, we are continuing to purpose to minister as God would allow us. As families, we encourage you as you are able, to take advantage of this unexpected time with your families. This is an opportunity to step back from the devices that consume us and dust off those board games, bake something together, go for a walk, memorize verses of Scripture as a family, discuss the current events, and help our families process what is happening in our world from a biblical viewpoint.

Unfortunately, we have seen what fear can do in our culture, but we now have the opportunity to show how to respond biblically while still working through the emotions we're trying to process. This is when our feet are put on our faith and we move forward as a faith community.

Here are some Scripture to memorize if you haven't already:

*Isaiah 26:3 "You will keep him in perfect peace whose mind is stayed on you, because he trusts in you."*

*Philippians 4:4-7 "Rejoice in the Lord always. Again, I will say, rejoice! Let your gentleness be known to all men. The Lord is at hand. Be anxious for nothing, but in everything by prayer and supplication, with thanksgiving, let your requests be made known to God; and the peace of God which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus."*

These are powerful verses to memorize as a family, so that we may always remember to rejoice in the Lord, to pray with thanksgiving in our hearts, and to run to our heavenly Father with our anxieties. What a great time this is to focus on the character of God, the only secure place we can trust.

Because of the changes that seem to be occurring daily, Busti Federated Church leadership are taking things one day at a time just as many of you are. We are postponing all gatherings at the church which includes Sunday morning services at least up through April 20<sup>th</sup>. We will continue monitoring the public health official's council which seems to continue to change as the Coronavirus evolves and follow any developments and state/local guidance.

Within the next couple of days our Church Administrator CJ Kelley will work on and implement a "Virtual Church" site on which our Sunday morning service may be viewed. As we start this new adventure, I will be meeting with the Praise Team and CJ Kelley to record the service which will be made available for Sunday morning viewing. A letter from CJ will be coming to you by the weekend giving detailed information as to where the service may be logged onto.

We are saddened by the sickness that inhabits our fallen world. Our prayers are with those that have been sick or have experienced loss. We will do our best to be responsible stewards and trust the Lord has a good plan for all of us. We appreciate all your gracious support over the 200 years the church has been in existence here in the Hamlet of Busti. It is ultimately God who sustains us, and we are trusting in Him during the days ahead.

Stay calm, and trust in the Lord  
Pastor Lee

Dear Friends,

We find ourselves presented with several challenges that most of us probably never imagined. As a church we have decided to face these challenges head on. It is our goal to help meet the needs of our congregation and our community. I have been tasked to set up a way for us to worship, stay informed and keep in touch with each other using online resources. We are currently working to implement the following tools to help with this.

⇒ Updated Church Website:

We will be relying on our website along with email to keep everyone up to date with current needs and prayer requests. A “virtual bulletin” will be posted on the main webpage with links to social media and worship videos as well as helpful tips and current news regarding the Coronavirus. The website will be the primary tool that we will be utilizing.

[www.bustifederatedchurch.org](http://www.bustifederatedchurch.org)

⇒ Video Recorded Worship Service:

Our worship team, led by Pastor Lee, will be working to provide a weekly, online worship service. This service will be pre-recorded, and you will be able to access it through the church website or Facebook page. We may also post shorter, inspirational videos throughout the week. All videos will be saved on the church’s YouTube page.

⇒ Online Bulletin & Prayer List

Each week, prior to what would be our regular Sunday morning worship service, a weekly bulletin and prayer list will be posted to the website. It is important that we keep each other updated with ongoing and new prayer requests. We are also working on re-instituting a prayer chain by calling instead of email.

Most importantly it’s vital to remember that we are all in this together. As we use these tools, I am sure that we will find things that don’t work, need to be changed or something new altogether. We are all working towards one goal which is to help meet each other’s needs and needs of those around us.

God Bless,

CJ Kelley  
Administrator  
[bustifederatedchurch@gmail.com](mailto:bustifederatedchurch@gmail.com)

# Around the Church

## Church Finances

Looking back over my time as treasurer there has never been a situation where the church is shut down for an extended period of time. Although we are not using the building and are trying to reduce costs where we can, we still have expenses that need to be met.

If you are a regular giver we ask that you continue to give. You can mail a check to the church or if it is easier you can use Paypal through a link on our website. The church is full of generous givers and we have been fortunate to continue to have our needs met.

CJ Kelley  
Treasurer

## Keeping In Touch

Church leadership has been diligently trying to keep lines of communication open. To do this we are relying on help from everyone. Not only is it important not to lose sight of our continuous needs but also to keep in touch with each other through these unordinary and trying times.

- ♦ Church Email: If you have been a part of the email prayer chain we will continue to utilize that for new requests and updating current needs.
- ♦ Phone Tree: We are implementing something similar to the prayer chain we used to use by telephone. We have divided everyone into groups of five or six and each group will have a leader that will make all of the calls. You can also communicate with your group as well.
- ♦ Buddy System: Audrey had been working on a buddy system and many have already been contacted. Each person will have one or two "buddies" to keep in touch with throughout this crisis and hopefully beyond.

## April

### Birthdays

Darlene McIntyre	1st
Mary Lou Matteson	2nd
CJ Kelley	3rd
Steve Grove	10th
Jon Putnam	14th
Lee O'Brien	27th

### Anniversaries

Jim & Joan Baer	6th
Walt & Joyce Dahlgren	28th

## May

### Birthdays

Hart Jordan	5th
Cindy Dustin	5th
Audrey Ash	7th
Helen Davis	12th
Judy Grove	18th
Cathy Hazzard	23rd
Deb Siggins	27th
Joan Baer	30th
Shirl Streib	30th

### Anniversaries

Mike & Becky Hohman	12th
Jerry & Anna Phillips	19th
Jim & Barb Shantz	28th

Pastor Lee O'Brien (716) 720-0115  
Administrator CJ Kelley (716) 708-6920  
bustifederatedchurch@gmail.com

Busti Federated Church  
875 Mill Rd.  
Jamestown, NY 14701  
(716)664-1586

## Church Roof Fund

Over the last couple of years we have been saving and fundraising to complete the replacement of the church roof. The final phase included the roof over the sanctuary.

The goal was to raise \$12,000.00 which we met this past January. With the unseasonably warm and dry weather the company we had contracted asked if they could start the replacement right away. Within one week the old roof was removed and the new roof was completed.

While they were repairing the roof they noticed that the gutters had deteriorated and needed to be replaced. We were able to replace these as well and the final bill will be under the estimated \$12,000.00. Thank you to everyone that gave to this important project.

A bird doesn't sing because it has an answer - it sings because it has a song. –  
Joan Walsh Anglund.

## American Baptist Foundation

On Sunday, March 15th, Kris Lutton from the American Baptist foundation visited our church to talk to us about the services the Foundation provides. With the sale of the parsonage we have some excess funds we will need to make some decisions about.

## Easter Sunrise Service

It's hard to believe that Easter is right around the corner. Every year we share a sunrise service with the Busti Church of God, taking turns hosting and serving breakfast. Pastor Lee has spoken with Pastor Roy and they decided with all of the uncertainty that we cancel the service this year.

We still intend to provide some form of Easter Service and will be working out the details over the next couple of weeks. Although it is sad to put these traditions on hold we have been given other opportunities to share the resurrected Savior.

## EXPENSES & INCOME COMPARISON

**January – December 2019  
(52 WEEKS)**

2019 BUDGETED EXPENSES	\$85,231.20
ESTIMATED PER WEEK EXPENSES	\$1,639.06
ACTUAL PER WEEK EXPENSES	\$1,631.95
YTD ACTUAL EXPENSE	\$84,861.60
AVERAGE WEEKLY INCOME	\$1,665.60
YTD ACTUAL INCOME	\$86,611.10

**YTD SURPLUS                      \$1,749.50**

Roof Fund	\$11,326.10
Whitt Fund	\$324.50
Memorials	\$2,845.09
Savings Acct. Balance	\$14,495.69

## 2020 Leader & Team List for BFC

Pastor*	Lee O'Brien	(Cell) 720-0115 (Office) 664-1586
Administrator	CJ Kelley	(Home) 708-6920 (Cell) 499-1810

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### Resource Team

Resource Team Leader\*

Assistant Team Leader*	Donna Swartzentruber	708-6920
Baptist Delegate*	Jim Fried	664-4777
Financial Secretary	Nancy Jordan	664-0964

### Staff Parish Relations Team\*

	Chick Morrison	488-9313
	Jim Streib	589-9304
	Barb Hanson	664-5804
	Jim Fried	664-4777
Treasurer*	C. J. Kelley	708-6920

Trustees*	Hart Jordan	664-0964
	Jim Streib	589-9304

United Methodist Lay Member\*

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### Ministry Team

Ministry Team Leader*	Audrey Ash	814-706-3128
Memorial Team	Mary Lou Matteson	763-2981
	Donna Swartzentruber	708-6920
	Shirl Streib	589-9304

\* Denotes the 9 voting members for the Resource Team

# Happiness Cake

- 1 Cup Good Thoughts
- 1 Cup Kind Deeds
- 1 Cup Consideration for Others
- 2 Cups Sacrifice
- 3 Cups of Forgiveness
- 2 Cups Well Beaten Faults
- 4 Cups of Prayer & Faith

Mix thoroughly; add tears of joy, sorrow, sympathy. Flavor with love and kindly service. Fold in 4 cups of prayer and faith. After having all this in your daily life, bake well with the heat of human kindness. Serve with a smile anytime and it will satisfy the hunger of starved souls.

Thanks to Dee Gould for Sharing This

## Samaritan's Purse Medical Response

A convoy of Samaritan's Purse trucks is headed to New York City with an Emergency Field Hospital to provide care for patients seriously ill with COVID-19. A large Disaster Assistance Response Team, including doctors, nurse, and other medical personnel will soon be on the ground as well.

The 68-bed respiratory care unit was prepared especially for this response to provide much needed support and to help save lives during the coronavirus pandemic. "People are dying from the coronavirus, hospitals are out of beds, and the medical staff are overwhelmed," said Franklin Graham, president of Samaritan's Purse. "We are deploying our Emergency Field Hospital to New York to help carry this burden. This is what Samaritan's Purse does—we respond in the middle of crises to help people in Jesus' Name. Please pray for our teams and for everyone around the world affected by the virus."

## How Can I Help???

This is a question that many people are asking as we go through this pandemic. Unfortunately, there are many people that will try to use tragedy for their gain, so here are some ideas.

The United Way of Southern Chautauqua County, Chautauqua Region Community Foundation and several other non-profits have established the Chautauqua County Crisis Response Fund with an overall goal of \$1 million.

Area non-profits will be able to apply for grants from the fund to help individuals and families with food, senior citizens' services, child care, mental health and other basic needs by visiting:  
[chautauquagrants.org](http://chautauquagrants.org)

Other local organizations that are helping those in need include: UCAN Ministries, Love INC and St. Susan's Center. You can also connect with groups through social media that are using their skills to make needed items.

Most importantly we can all be there for each other. You can send a card with a note of encouragement or pick up the phone and just check in with someone. Generally we are a very social people and are not geared towards isolation. Together we can help each other get through this.

The wonderful thing about praying is that you leave a world of not being able to do something and enter God's realm where everything is possible. He specializes in the impossible. Nothing is too great for His almighty power. Nothing is too small for His love.

Corrie Ten Boom

# CORONAVIRUS, COLD, OR FLU?

## CORONAVIRUS

FEVER  
DRY COUGH  
NOTICEABLE SHORTNESS  
OF BREATH  
SYMPTOMS APPEAR 2-14  
DAYS AFTER EXPOSURE

## FLU

HIGH FEVER (OVER 100.5)  
EXTREME EXHAUSTION  
MUSCLE OR BODY ACHES  
DRY COUGH  
CHILLS  
STUFFY NOSE  
HEADACHES  
POSSIBLE VOMITING OR DIARRHEA  
(MORE COMMON IN CHILDREN)

## COLD

SORE OR SCRATCHY THROAT  
COUGH  
RUNNY NOSE  
STUFFY NOSE  
MILD FEVER, IF ANY

Reduce your risk of **coronavirus** infection:



Clean hands with soap and water  
or alcohol-based hand rub

Cover nose and mouth when coughing and  
sneezing with tissue or flexed elbow



Avoid close contact with anyone with  
cold or flu-like symptoms

Thoroughly cook meat and eggs



Avoid unprotected contact with live  
wild or farm animals



World Health  
Organization



### **Undelivered goods:**

Online sellers claim they have in-demand products, like cleaning, household, and health and medical supplies. You place an order, but you never get your shipment. Anyone can set up shop online under almost any name including scammers.

*What to do:* Check out the seller by searching online for the person or company's name, phone number and email address, plus words like "review," "complaint" or "scam." If everything checks out, pay by credit card and keep a record of your transaction.

### **Fake charities:**

When a major health event happens, you might be looking for ways to help. Scammers use the same events to take advantage of your generosity. Some scammers use names that sound a lot like the names of real charities. This is one reason it pays to do some research before giving. Money lost to bogus charities means less donations to help those in need.

### **Fake emails, texts and phishing:**

Scammers use fake emails or texts to get you to share valuable personal information, like account numbers, Social Security numbers, or your passwords. They use your information to steal your money, your identity, or both. They also use phishing emails to get access to your computer or network. If you click on a link, they can install ransomware or other programs that can lock you out of your data. Scammers often use familiar company names or pretend to be someone you know.

### **Robocalls:**

Scammers are using illegal robocalls to pitch everything from scam Coronavirus treatments to work-at-home schemes.

*What to do:* **Hang up.** Don't press any numbers. The recording might say that pressing a number will let you speak to a live operator or remove you from their call list, but it might lead to more robocalls, instead.

### **Misinformation and rumors:**

Scammers, and sometimes well-meaning people, share information that hasn't been verified.

*What to do:* Before you pass on any messages, and certainly before you pay someone or share your personal information, do some fact checking by contacting trusted sources. For information related to the Coronavirus, visit What the U.S. Government is Doing. There you'll find links to federal, state and local government agencies.

It's unfortunate that during times of greatest need there are people in this world that will use it for their own personal gain. Many people have a big heart and want to do everything they can to help out others in need. Hopefully this info can help you see through the scams. There is also a link on our website for additional information.

[www.bustifederatedchurch.org](http://www.bustifederatedchurch.org)

"I am a firm believer in the people. If given the truth, they can be depended upon to meet any national crisis. The great point is to bring them the real facts."

Abraham Lincoln