Results of Survey of our PSEC Churches

Below are the results of a recent survey sent to all of our churches. Forty-two of our churches responded.

- 87.8% are holding some sort of virtual services
  - 66.7% are using Facebook
  - 58.3% are using YouTube
  - 36.1% are using Zoom
  - Several others are emailing services, mailing services/sermons, mailing or delivering CDs and DVDs

- 51.3% say they’ve seen higher attendance than in recent years

- On the question of “Is your congregation having worship in-person?
  - 50% - No, we are not meeting in-person at this time.
  - 26.2% - Yes, we worship inside the church
  - 9.5% - Yes, we hold worship outside
  - The rest are varying from week to week according to the weather, have been outside but are moving inside in Sept., or having both an inside early service and then an outside later service.

- The earliest anyone reported gathering again is June 7.
  - 8 churches reported meeting again in June
  - 5 started in July
  - 2 started in August

- “If your congregation is not yet meeting in-person, when do you anticipate that will resume?”
  - September – 5
  - October – 4
  - November – 2
  - 2021 – 2
  - Two weeks after restrictions are lifted for 100-person indoor gatherings
  - When the daily numbers in our county is below 10 a day – 1

- How has COVID impacted contributions and offerings?
  - 28.8% - giving has decreased
  - 45.2% - giving has stayed about the same
  - 21.4% - giving has increased
  - 4.8% - Other
  - “Not sure”
  - “Giving has continued, maybe not at an equal amount as when we have live worship, but several of the staff requested ½ pay instead of full pay, so we were able to meet our expenses through the summer.”

- 52.4% received PPP loans.

- 1 church reported applying for other financial assistance.

- 85.7% anticipate meeting OCWM pledges to PSEC.
  - 2.4% said “No”
  - The others were “not sure” or “uncertain at this time”

- “Is there any type of support/training you would find valuable from the conference at this point?”
  - “What you are doing now is helpful to my ministry and that of my congregation.”
  - “Glad to see workshop this Sat. from Cean James.”
  - “Anything related to developing skills to do in person and online worship simultaneously would help.”
  - “Additional prepackaged worship elements that can be included in our worship videos.”
  - “It would be helpful to have a roundtable discussion about video and sound production inside Sanctuary and produced to Zoom, etc. What are other churches doing and how can we network with them?”
  - “Yes, church management in finances.”
  - “Music Licensing for Live-Streaming other than the UCC Hymnal”
  - “Safe Church and online confirmation/Sunday School”
  - “A really good tech person to solve our dilemma of mixing the house speaker system with Zoom”
  - “How to engage and inspire on social media.”

- Neighbors In Need Offering …
  - occurring in most UCC churches next week!
  - NIN is a 5 for 5 Offering!