



October 12, 2021

Dear Friends,

Loved ones hover in our hearts and in our minds long after they have ended their earthly journey. A particular phrase or a special place may stir a memory of a cherished one who had a significant impact on you and has vanished from your sight but not from your soul.

On Sunday, November 7, we will give thanks for our dear ones who have crossed over to the other side and now dwell in God's eternal kingdom. We will invite them to join us in our sanctuary and express our gratefulness to them as we celebrate All Saints' Sunday.

The first Sunday in November is a day to remember those who came before us and the impact they had – and continue to have – on our lives. This year, we would like to remember our deceased loved ones in a special way. We would like for you to bring a photo or two (as many as four) of your saints so that we can display them during our worship service.

In order to not damage your actual photographs, we ask you to make COPIES of them. You may bring your paper copies to church beginning this Sunday through October 31. Also, you may bring them to church during office hours, Tuesday – Friday, 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Please place your saints on the table across from the receptionist desk.

You may bring any size photo (up to 8" x 10") and the shot can be formal or casual. It can be black and white or color. It can be a picture of your saint only, or you might be in the picture, too. We are not striving for uniformity, so please bring whatever images are dear to you. Also, feel free to write the person's name on the photo.

Whether you are worshiping in person that Sunday or watching online, I hope our visual display will remind you of ways they blessed your life, and that we are "surrounded by a great cloud of witnesses" (Hebrews 12:1) who inspire us to faithfully follow the way Jesus has shown us. I look forward to seeing your saints.

On a related note, if you have been hesitant to join us for in-person worship, please remember the steps we have taken to insure your safety. We have installed air filters that capture particles in the air as small as 0.3 micrometers, the same grade as used in hospitals. In addition to these high grade air filters, we have installed air purifying devices that use needle-point bi-polar ionization

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to break down viruses, bacteria, mold, allergens, smoke, and odors in the air. These steps make our building far safer than a trip to the grocery.

Those who prefer to practice social distancing and wear a mask may do so in the back half of the sanctuary and in the balcony. Anyone who is vaccinated and feels comfortable sitting closer to others, sits in the side transepts or the front five rows of pews.

Now, start digging out those photos of your loved ones!

Blessings,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Greg", written in a cursive style.

Gregory Knox Jones
Senior Pastor/Head of Staff

P.S. Join us for some fall fun out on the church lawn this **Sunday, October 17, at 10 a.m.**, at our Fall Festival. We would love to see you in your costume! You can make a craft, decorate a pumpkin, make a card for a homebound member, and enjoy refreshments and goodie bags. Masks recommended. Please observe social distancing. The rain date for this event is October 24.