

VIDEO #1 Script  
March 15<sup>th</sup>, 2020

Hello, I am Scott Allen, pastor of the Living Hope Kuna United Methodist Church. I want to admit right away that I am a little anxious about the process of making this video. I grew up in the era where tying two tin cans together with a string and talking back and forth seemed very cutting edge. Utilizing digital technology is a new experience for me. This is my first attempt at creating a video.

I have just a couple of things I want to briefly share with you. As I expect you already know, due to concern regarding the spread of the Corona virus, our Greater Northwest Area Bishop, Elaine Stanovsky, has directed all churches in Oregon and Idaho to suspend in-person worship for two weeks, including today, March 15<sup>th</sup>, and next Sunday, March 22<sup>nd</sup>.

In response to this closure, the Living Hope Kuna United Methodist Church is utilizing email, the Facebook platform, and the church web page to communicate with our congregation and community. As I mentioned earlier, this is not my area of expertise. However, our secretary, Gail Jackson, is skilled in these areas, and has been very helpful. My daughter, Anna, is also trying to teach an old dog some new tricks.

During this time when we will not be meeting together at the church, I want to encourage you to make a special effort to continue to communicate with each other. I think this will be very important for our spiritual and emotional health. Though there will temporarily be fewer opportunities to spend time with each other, we need to avoid becoming isolated. Please make an effort to call or email each other, often, especially if there is someone who lives alone or might have other special needs. Do not be hesitant to let someone know you care.

The church office intends to send out periodic emails and post to our Facebook page, Kuna United Methodist Church - Living Hope, and the church website, [www.kunaumc.org](http://www.kunaumc.org). Assuming I am successful with this video, there will be more. If you have a pastoral need, I invite you to call me on my cell phone at any time.

I will close with a poem that a number of my clergy colleagues have shared with me, that has been attributed to Cameron Wiggins Belim. The poem is entitled, Prayer for a Pandemic

## Prayer for a Pandemic

May we who are merely inconvenienced  
Remember those whose lives are at stake

May we who have no risk factors  
Remember those most vulnerable

May we who have the luxury of working from home  
Remember those who must choose between  
Preserving their health or making their rent

May we how have the flexibility to care for our  
children when their schools close,  
Remember those that have no options

May we who have to cancel our trips  
Remember those who have no safe place to go

May we who are losing our margin money  
in the tumult of the economic market  
Remember those who have no margin at all

May we who settle in for a quarantine at home  
Remember those who have no home

As fear grips our country  
Let us choose love during this time when we cannot  
physically wrap our arms around each other

Let us yet find ways to be the loving embrace of  
God to our neighbor. Amen.