

Seward United Methodist Church News Stream August 30th

Fall Ministry Sermon Topics

I am enjoying getting to know folks even during these unusual times. I am honored and delighted to serve such a great congregation and to be in ministry with Pastor Jo Ellen, Wess, and Shelley.

As we look to increasing activities at the church this fall, I look forward to getting to know even more of you. We anticipate returning to two Sunday morning worship services on September 20. We plan to live stream BOTH of the worship services -- going forward into the future, we will plan to live stream all our worship services.

Stay cool during this extreme heat. Be gentle with yourself and one another.
Grace, peace,

Reverend Mary Kay

Fall Ministry Sermon Topics

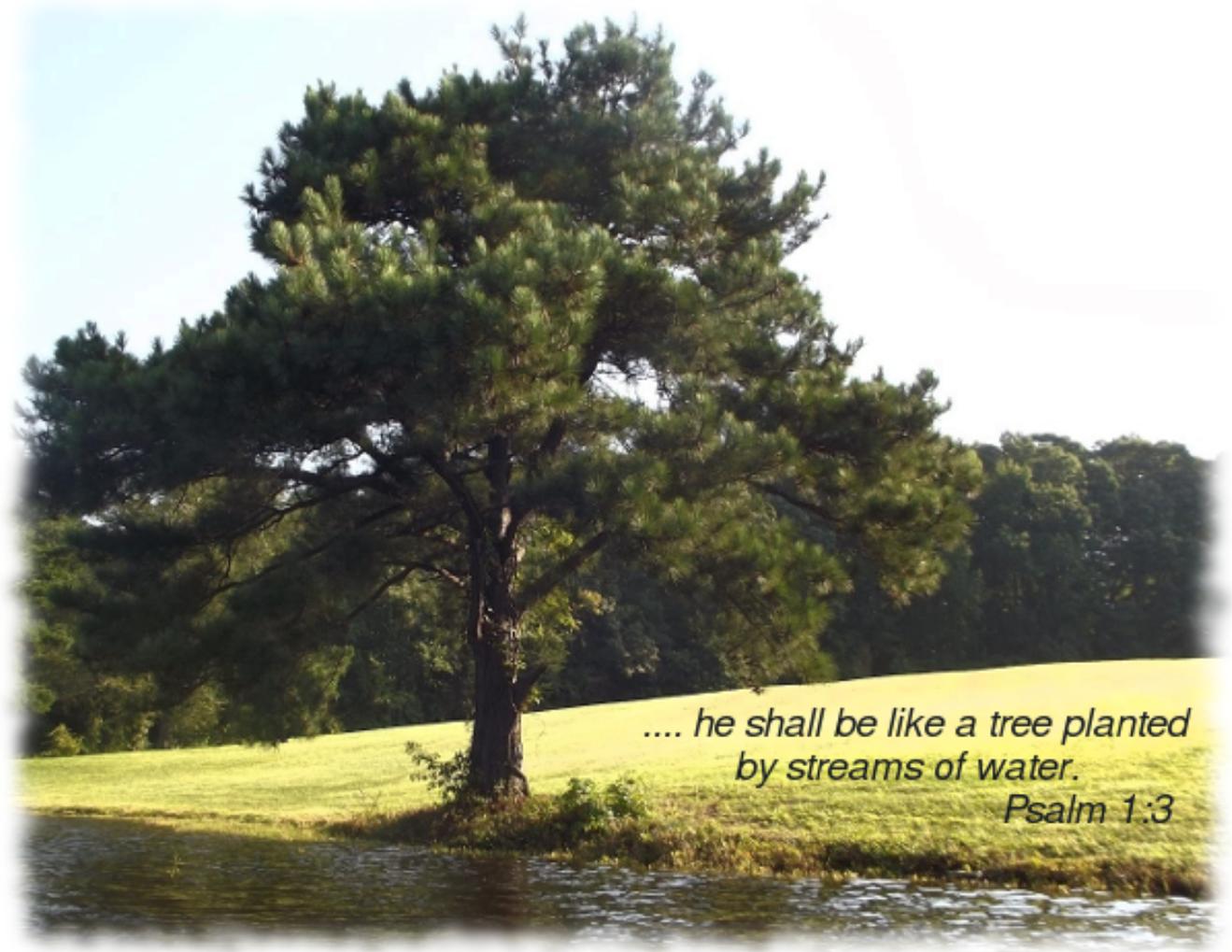
Join us in person on Sundays or on our Facebook/YouTube Live! Our September Sermon series topics will be:

- 2nd - Singing a New Song to God (Communion Sunday)
- 13th - United Methodist Women Thank Offering Sunday
- 20th – Prevenient Grace Abounds
- 27th – Justifying Grace Abounds
- October 4th Sanctifying Grace Abounds (World Communion Sunday)

Be sure to bring your own Communion Elements or have them ready for online worship on the first Sundays of each month. Simple crackers and water or bread and juice are all you need... add to a Ziplock bag or a small cooler and you are ready for worship! What a joy to celebrate God's Table together!

We continue with Music Mondays, God and Me Children's Time, Midweek Wednesday Noon Devotions, and other specials shared on our Facebook/YouTube. Please feel free to share these postings to your own pages and invite others to join us online anytime!

Fall Ministries Starting soon



Small groups will begin again slowly.... First we will start with the Godparent groups on the 20th for the Senior class and the 23rd for the Junior/Sophomore class. The Adult Sunday School lead by Dana Galusha will meet starting September 20th. We are looking towards offering Children's Sunday School , a parent/family support group and other small connection groups as we work our way through the rest of 2020.

This school year finds us in "year two" of our confirmation cycle for 8th and 9th graders. They are a great group of students! We have been using the [Bible Project](#) videos, emailed weekly, in lieu of meeting in-person.. Beginning September 20th, this group will gather again in-person and start anew on our journey together this year with Mary Kay and Jo Ellen. Watch for details soon!

Beginning Sunday, September 20th, as long as the [Four-Corners Health directive/risk dial](#) allows, we plan to host outside Sunday Fellowship between the two worship gatherings. Bring your chair to sit, a cup of coffee/tea/diet mountain dew, and enjoy some physically distanced fellowship!

Prayer of Blessing for our Schools

By Michelle L. Torigian

Creator God, source of all knowledge and wisdom-
In this unique era of our lives,
When laptops on kitchen tables
And masks in public spaces
Have become our norm,
We ask for blessing of our students.

Some of these young scholars will be learning in
classrooms.
We pray for health in body, mind, and soul.
Bless their masks as they wear them from first bell
to last.
Bless the air in the classrooms. Bless their
unusual recesses and lunchtimes.
May wellness be their companion.

Some of our learners are absorbing knowledge
from new spaces-
Laptops instead of smart-boards
Dining room tables instead of desks.
May their focus be great.
May connections grow between students and
teachers
And students with one another.
We pray for health in mind, soul, and body.
Bless the energy in their homes, and the loved ones assisting them.

Bless the students navigating education
As they split their time between home and school-
Parents, grandparents and friends.
We pray for health in soul, mind, and body
We pray for the health of all their connections.
May their unique schooling inspire all of us to think outside of boxes.

Bless the parents wondering how to balance all of this.
The family members who are classmates and teachers in our current world. Bless the
teachers, staff, and administrators leading in this new realm of education. Bless our
communities as we work to stay well and reduce the spread of COVID-19. May 2020 be
the year in which we grow with you, God of wisdom. Amen.

