

**As stewards of God's scripture, we are called to communicate the Word. And to do so with conviction and effectiveness. Our messages tell of hope, love, and faith promised by God. Over the course of the last very intense 15 days, Second Presbyterian Church (Indianapolis) has taken this call to heart with great urgency.**

**At a time of crisis, we embrace the philosophy that clear and consistent communications is crucial.**

This includes reaching our internal audience (staff), congregational audience (membership), and the community around us (faith community in our cities/towns). We also embrace the strength of a singular, leading voice, and a singular, repeatable message at the onset of crisis – delivering our words with clarity and leadership while providing important stability. For Second Presbyterian Church, that one message, embraced by all of our efforts, is [Holding Faith, Together](#).

**As the days of crisis advance, echoing that leadership message becomes so important.**

Creating a steady drumbeat of voices to remind us of God's presence and of our collective faith proves to breed unity, fellowship, and hope. At Second Presbyterian Church, our Senior Pastor, Rev. Chris Henry, has been the primary and leading voice for our internal, congregational, and community communications. And, given the size of Second and the ongoing state of uncertainty, we are seeking to effectively echo his message – *Holding Faith, Together* – through our senior pastoral team, our ministry teams, and our lay leaders.

**Once the leadership (the who) and the content of messages and decisions (the what) have been determined, our team then shifts to the *how*.**

At Second Presbyterian, the *how* has many complementary answers. How can we effectively share this message of *Holding Faith, Together*? Because of our size, we have used several tactics:

- Sunday worship through LiveStream, Facebook Live, Roku and Apple TV (at one, consistent time)
- A dedicated new web site: [Holding Faith, Together](#). ([www.secondchurch.org/update](http://www.secondchurch.org/update))
- Consistent weekly video messages from Rev. Chris Henry
- Semi-weekly congregational emails: important updates, stories of hope, and reminders of faith
- Daily video devotions from our pastoral leadership team
- Daily Lectio Divina video readings from our ministry team
- New YouTube playlists with stories, studies and love from our leadership to our youth
- Interactive and proactive daily social media efforts (Facebook, Instagram, YouTube)
- Local broadcast stories with the voice of Rev. Chris Henry
- New ways of “gathering” for meetings, Bible studies, reunion groups – such as Zoom and more
- And still, phone calls and handwritten letters

**Our foundational driver has been to ensure that our staff, our congregation, our city and beyond know of God's abiding presence and love ...  
no matter the circumstance.**

*A welcoming community of faith where Jesus Christ transforms lives.*

**Our community of faith includes a membership of nearly 3,500 people. Here is an example of an email they received on Tuesday, March 24, 2020.**

**HOW ARE WE [HOLDING FAITH, TOGETHER?](#)**

What is it like to be a welcoming community of faith when that community is put to the test? What is it like to trust the depth of fellowship in the midst of crisis? Can we still choose love and hold faith, together? At Second Presbyterian Church – in abundant unity – you have answered. *Yes, as the Body of Christ, we can.*

For nearly 200 years, Second Presbyterian has come together through calm seas and storms alike. You have acted in love, and you have carried forward. And this time is no different.

**Did you know...**

- The youngest generation of our church now has their own [YouTube playlist](#) to follow Sunday School stories and lessons? And our littlest choir singers will still lift their voices in praise this weekend...right from their home computers?
- The [Niners confirmation class](#) still learned what it means to be a Presbyterian last week?
- Our [Sunday online worship](#) is being viewed well into the thousands...and growing!?
- The students of Footsteps met through Zoom to continue their discipleship? And that our middle and high school kids are watching videos from Second youth leaders on [Instagram](#) by the hundreds?
- Our volunteers and efforts at Northside Food Pantry are continuing to serve large numbers of neighbors?
- Rev. Chris Henry offered faithful wisdom and guidance on [WISH-TV](#) last week?
- The children of Children's Circle Preschool are still [sharing their artwork](#) and reading stories together?
- CenterPoint Counseling has continued to provide comfort and clarity to individuals and families?
- Our [Daily Devotions](#) have been watched nearly 9,000 times? And that a faithful following of Second members (and beyond!) are sharing in daily [Lectio Divina readings](#)?
- Fellowship groups and committee meetings have continued to disciple and plan? FaceTime, Zoom, and more are all being used!
- Our Sanctuary Choir continues to lead with harmony and find [fellowship online](#)?
- You can [join us on Facebook](#) (along with nearly 7,000 others who already have just in the last week!), and visit [Holding Faith, Together](#) to hear from us every day?
- Prayer circles are happening around the clock?! [Praying for you](#), your health and your families. Praying for our leaders, praying for our healthcare community, and praying for strangers.

**This welcoming community of faith where Jesus Christ transforms lives is connected, compassionate, deep, and strong. At [SecondChurch.org/Update](#), you'll find all the ways we are holding faith, together.**