

Pastor Susan's Notes

O! What a time it has been.

We are almost on the other side of the Covid-19 pandemic. The variants are showing up in many places, however, day by day, I am encouraged. As I write, we are back to in-person worship with only those not vaccinated having to wear face coverings and socially distancing themselves from others. We still want to be smart about this. The concern is for “the other” – those whose resistance is lower, those who are vulnerable to infection, those who simply do not want to be sick! Our children wear masks to protect everyone, too. Thank you.

Every state was affected: Per 100,000 people, New Jersey had the most deaths, 297, Hawaii, the least, 36. Illinois fell in the middle with 202 deaths per 100,000 people. Although some states touted their numbers were not big, I encourage you to google *Covid -19 death rate by state* to see the numbers for yourself on Statista.com. There have been over 33 million Covid-19 cases and over 602,000 Covid-19 deaths so far. The most common flu (influenza), from October through March, usually sees anywhere from 34,000-43,000 deaths. We can understand why Covid-19 was over 10 times more deadly.



It is with this mindset, in addition to the many people I know who are suffering from non-Covid-19 illnesses, that I come to the month of July wanting to pray for healing. Please join me in Fellowship Hall on Sunday, July 18, 9:30 a.m., where, with healing as the theme for worship, individuals may be anointed, prayers can be said, and Holy Communion will bind us together as a Fellowship of Believers.

This is not just for the ravages of Covid-19, but all the various reasons we seek God for healing.

May our God be praised for blessing us with the Great Healer, The Compassionate One, Jesus; our rock and our salvation.

I look forward to seeing you in church,

Pastor Susan