

Monday Musings, April 13, 2020

from Pastor Brooke

Happy Monday, Beloved,

I have talked about anxiety in this time, but I haven't talked about some of the possible reasons. I could write a lot more than a musing on this topic, but this morning, I want to focus on the fear of resources. For some of us, that is not a concern at all; we still have pension coming in, or we still have a job, or we own our own home. But for others, this pandemic has meant a loss of income; some even in our own congregation. So if you are on either side of this there are ways you can help; either someone else or yourself.

Let's start with those of us for whom this is not a concern; how can we help?

1. Volunteer to help pass out grab 'n' go meals at Clague Road UCC on April 25, 4:30-6 p.m.
2. You may not know this, but there is a fund to help members of our congregation who might need some financial help. The recipients of this fund are kept confidential. You can send your financial contribution to this fund by putting "Support Our Families" in the subject line or you can contribute electronically via the church website at <https://www.corucc.org/give/>. Wondering what to do with the \$1,200 coming from the government? This would be a place where it would be well used.
3. If you know of someone who is struggling in the midst of this crisis, anonymously send them a grocery card. The scriptures remind us that we are not to be public about these things.

If you are in need during this time, here are some resources:

1. The Greater Cleveland Food Bank has a list of several food pantry locations. Click on this link to find ones in or near Westlake: <https://www.greaterclevelandfoodbank.org/get-help/map>.
2. Do not be embarrassed to access the "Support Our Families" fund through the congregation. As stated above, this is completely confidential — there are three people who would know; Pastor Brooke, the chair of the committee, and the treasurer who would cut the check. If you are in need, contact Pastor Brooke via phone at 440.331.0834 or email at: PastorBrooke@corucc.org.
3. Contact your bank, your rental company/landlord, your car loan lender and explain your situation. Many of these places are willing and able to help you during this time.

These are difficult times for all of us, but if you have a way to help, this is a great opportunity. If you are in need of help, there is a whole community that is ready to share the love of God with you and help you.

Blessings,



Pastor Brooke