

G Kerr

Religion 368

Dr. Koch

Our Churches coping through a Pandemic

Living in West Plains, Missouri for the last twenty years has been relaxing. We are a small town on the south highway into Arkansas. My church is the First Presbyterian Church of West Plains. At nine on Sunday morning we usually have Bible study. Sunday morning at ten AM we usually have church service. After the service we have a snack time where we visit with each other in Christian fellowship. At this time, we learn if a member needs help, or a new person is interested in joining our church family. On about every-other Wednesday night we have a dinner and bible study.

When the pandemic was first announced, we stopped shaking hands, we stopped our fellowship hour, we stopped our Wednesday dinner meetings and we practiced social distancing. Every other pew was used. Many were absent because of health reasons. Each deacon called a list of members to check on their health and or any needs. Ruth our secretary tried to match needs with available people. The governor closed our state March 13, 2020. We stopped having Church meetings on Sunday. Our pastor e-mailed us with links on his sermon. The next week, Ruth added a bulletin with music links, sermon, and people in need. Those without computers receive calls from the pastor and deacons checking in and making sure all are alright.

<https://youtu.be/I3809cEWqVU>

This link has 12 of our churches sermons.