

We are in unprecedented times in the life of the church

The Reverend Dr. Peggy Wobbema, pastor, Trinity Presbyterian, Shell Knob Missouri

We are in unprecedented times in the life of the church. The Trinity congregation in Shell Knob is 90% made up of the “most vulnerable.” With that, how do you approach ministry with everyone staying home and not having worship as usual. Actually, that is the exciting part—this is unusual and challenges us in ministry to think differently about how to minister effectively to our congregations. Weekly the Deacons are calling those under their care to keep communication lines open and the needs for prayer. As Pastor I have written personal notes to almost everyone in the congregation and made phone calls to check on everyone during this time.

Trinity doesn't have video capabilities and most of the congregation are not on Facebook. As a result, for every Sunday I record a sermon with the voice recording on my office computer and it is then posted on our website—which by the way is brand new during this time! Check it out at trinityshellknob.net.

Another way I am ministering the Word of God to my congregation is through a daily devotional that is emailed out to everyone and then posted on Facebook and also the website to reach those beyond our walls. The daily writings have become a life-line to many beyond Trinity and that has been rewarding.

These are tough times and exciting times. The Word of God is not quarantined! It is going out in many different avenues and lives are being encouraged and lifted up each day—for that I am grateful for the Holy Spirit's help and guidance during this time in the life our congregation.