



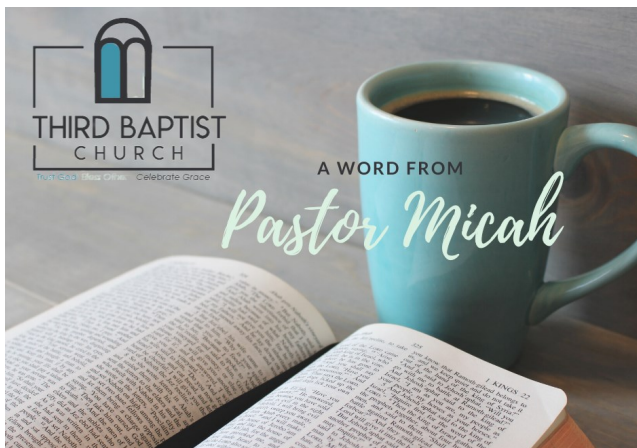
Trust God Bless Others Celebrate Grace

# THE COURIER

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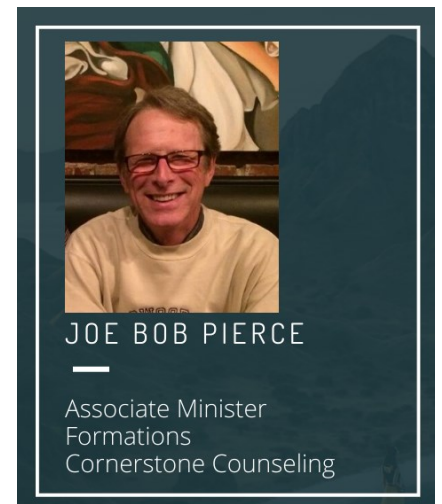


I would love to begin by announcing that we have a date scheduled to resume in-person worship services at 527 Allen Street, but I cannot. Many are eager to step foot in our sacred space and resume a traditional worship experience. I, too, want this to happen.

In the weeks ahead, our Leadership Ministry Team will be diligently planning when and how we can do this in a safe and meaningful way. Until then, I will join you during our time of worship on your computer, tablet, smartphone, or on your radio.

Remember that this time of spiritual exile will not last forever. For now, *be strong and courageous. Do not be frightened or dismayed, for the Lord your God is with you (Joshua 1:9)*

Another Look Sunday School class has been meeting regularly via Zoom since the Third Baptist Church building closed. We're studying an interesting book entitled "Falling Upward: A Spirituality for the Two Halves of Life." The author, Rev. Richard Rohr, contends that we basically develop a different type of spiritual sensibility in the second half of life. In the first half of life we concern ourselves with things like learning and keeping the rules, figuring out where we belong, and convincing ourselves that whatever group we belong to is better than the other groups, be they churches, ethnic groups, social clubs, or others. In the second half of life, we begin to learn that the differences in groups and people are not all that important. God starts to lead us to accept and include others in radical ways that we haven't before. Given the current social unrest, I think it's good that our class is studying how, in the second half of life, we can learn to embrace Jesus' vision of welcoming all people to the banquet table of the Kingdom. Lk. 14:23



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