Connecting without Technology Takeaways - April 20, 2020
With Pastors David Ewing and Josh Demi

Conference Calling
- Use Conference Calling to reach people who are not online. Conference calls allow even the most disconnected to connect.

  **Recommended options:** Vast Conference Calling - [https://www.conferencecalling.com](https://www.conferencecalling.com) and [https://www.freeconferencecall.com/](https://www.freeconferencecall.com/) (NOT the same as freeconferencecalling - with “ing.” Some reported having difficulty with tech support.)

- Do conference call at the same time as Facebook Live.
- Do conference calls at scheduled times -- same time, same place--so that details don’t have to be relayed by direct phone calls each week. But call those who don’t have email each week to preview what the worship theme will be -- especially if it involves them preparing something to use during worship.
- Ask Parishioners to physically hold something during the call- engage them physically.

Ideas for Congregational Engagement
- **Don’t over-innovate!** Simply calling people works well. Ask some people in the church to call group of others to check on them.

- **Use U.S. mail.** Send bulletins, or devotionals for individuals to use separately or together.

- **Use fun activities** to engage parishioners - crossword puzzle using sermon topics or other theme [http://puzzlemaker.discoveryeducation.com/CrissCrossSetupForm.asp](http://puzzlemaker.discoveryeducation.com/CrissCrossSetupForm.asp)

- **Postcard Campaign** --Involve families by providing postcards that children/youth can color or decorate and write a greeting, then mail to others in the congregation. [https://www.amazon.com/Blank-Mailable-Heavy-Postcards-Mailing/dp/B07DFMBG3X](https://www.amazon.com/Blank-Mailable-Heavy-Postcards-Mailing/dp/B07DFMBG3X)

- "**Worship in a Box**", dropped off on porches, included things like a table cross, home worship order, LED candle, a drink box and snack that all could share to represent the planned Easter breakfast. we were planning

**Zoom Info (zoom.us)**
Zoom offers phone call-in option with toll-free numbers on paid accounts. UM Communications recently invited churches with 100 members or less to apply for a ZOOM licenses available at no cost to the church for one year. Applications exceeded the limited number available very quickly. Tom Carr reported in chat that he received notice that First UMC Reynoldsville is a recipient of a grant for a ZOOM account for 1 year.