

Dear Members and Friends of First Church,

We are writing to reassure our community that we have ongoing security measures in place at church and are adding a bit extra during the week of July 14 - 19, when people are concerned about volatility around the Republican National Convention in downtown Milwaukee. We also want to encourage community care and mutual respect during a time of heightened polarization.

Depending on your political views, values, and multiplicity of identities, you may be feeling especially vulnerable that week. Please make choices that center self-care and care for our community, however that works for you. For example, you might choose to participate in worship through watching our livestream. Or you may want to be sure to come in person to be with others. Or you might choose to join MICAH's "We All Belong" rally Sunday afternoon, July 14.

Here are the security measures always in place in our building:

- The building is locked, except on Sunday mornings.
- Greeters welcome people at the door on Sunday mornings.
- Ushers are trained in disruptive person protocol.
- Security cameras are at our main entrance.

Additional measures July 14 – 19:

- At 10:15 a.m. Sunday morning, July 14, the entrance door will be locked, and a staff person will be there to welcome latecomers to worship. There will also be staff in the main hallway during the entire worship service.
- The building will be closed to all activities Monday, July 15 Friday, July 19, although staff may work in the building if they choose.
- Rev. Jennifer and Rev. Dena will be working that week, with Dena leading worship Sunday, July 14 and Jennifer leading worship Sunday, July 21.

If you need emotional support, turn to each other, request a Pastoral Care Associate (fuspastoralcare@gmail.com), or for urgent needs, call our emergency pastoral care number to speak with one of our Ministers (414-216-2113).

May you be well, may you be held, may you be whole,

Rev. Dena McPhetres, Associate Minister Rev. Kimberlee Tomczak Carlson, Minister of Religious Education Stacy Koenen, President of the Congregation



A place where freedom, reason, spirituality, community and social justice all come together.

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