

Douglas Congregational United Church of Christ

Pastor's Report: May 19, 2020

Dear Church Council:

One year ago (on April 28, 2019), we officially unveiled a brand-new Douglas UCC logo, one which depicted the walls of our church expanding. This new logo represented our vision of expanding our Progressive Christian message out into the world, far-and-wide beyond our church walls.

At that time, I don't think any of us could have imagined that – in just one year's time – our Sunday messages would be reaching people from all over the world. As you will see from the attached analytical graphs from YouTube and Facebook, our online videos have received more than 10,000 views in just the past 28 days alone!

We have people watching and commenting each week from all over the country and from all over the world – places like Australia, Ireland, and South Africa, to name just a few. New viewers have also been emailing us and sending us letters in the mail, letting us know grateful they are to have found our services online.

Many thanks to our Director of Music, Peter Black, and to our weekly readers and special musicians who have been contributing videos to our services from their homes. And, of course, I am grateful to my husband, Gregg Smith, who helps me record, edit, and upload the videos each week.

Our Douglas UCC family continues to stay connected each week via the well-attended online Zoom “Coffee Hour” sessions which follow our Sunday worship services, and most of our church groups and committees have been meeting virtually, as well. I have also led two guided meditations online, in which more than 200 people have taken part.

This past Friday, our Douglas UCC musicians and singers performed a very special virtual concert for us on our church's YouTube channel and Facebook page. More than 300 people watched the concert “live” on Friday night and more than \$1,000 was raised for Christian Neighbors Food Pantry. Kudos to Nancy Plantinga, Peter Black, and all our talented musicians who performed; to Gemina Petruzzelli for designing the beautiful concert poster; and to Gregg Smith for helping me with editing and uploading the concert video.

Next month, we are excited to take part in the virtual Douglas Community Pride event on June 6, which will feature a video presentation I've narrated and put together, highlighting Douglas UCC's 30 years of being an “Open & Affirming” church.

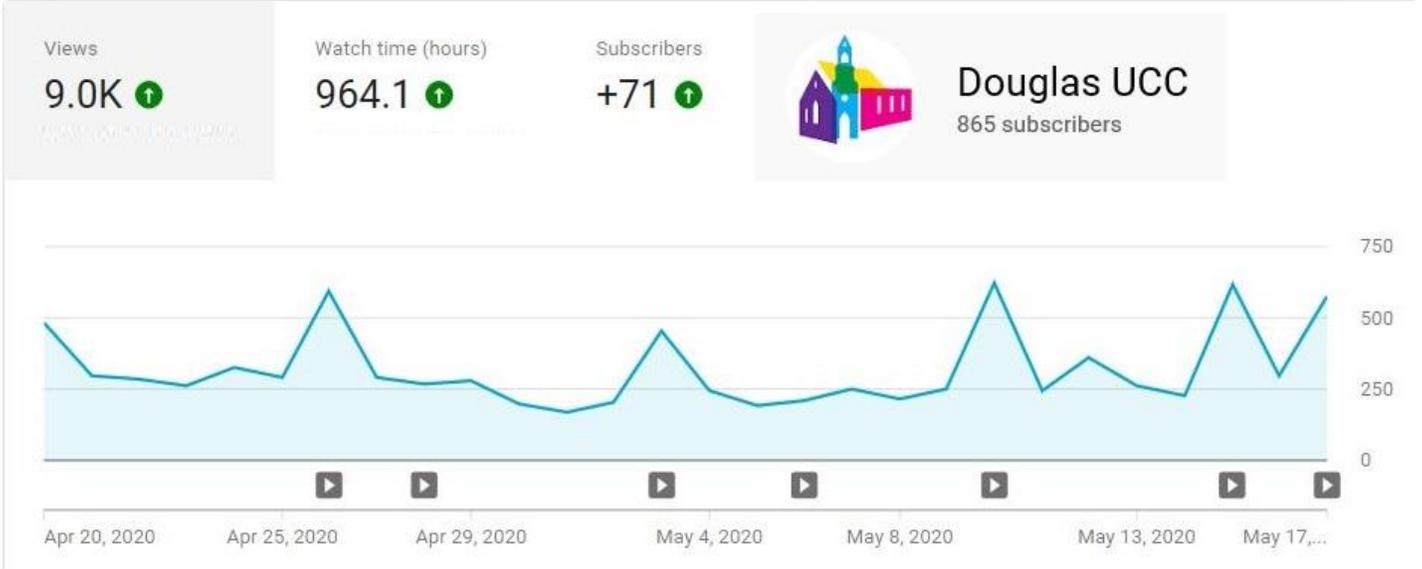
Respectfully Submitted,

Pastor Sal

Rev. Salvatore Sapienza, Pastor

YOUTUBE:

Views are up! Your channel got 8,973 views in the last 28 days.



FACEBOOK:

Performance > METRICS FOR ALL YOUR VIDEOS FROM 4/20 - 5/17

