

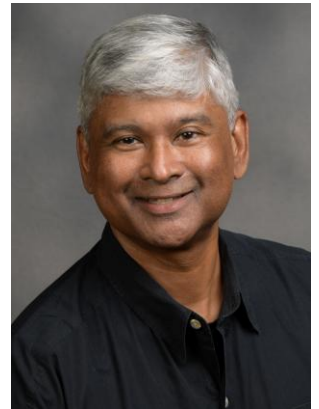
PASTOR'S MESSAGE

"I am sending you out like sheep into the midst of wolves,
so be wise as serpents and innocent as doves. - Matthew 10:16

Dear Friends,

I pray the past few weeks have been good to you. Sorry to be out of touch for a while! My travels impacted my writing schedule.

This week, I must alert you to yet another electronic scam that is currently plaguing local churches: Scammers are now sending emails to office administrators while posing as church members. The scammers request a copy of the church directory, which is then used to circulate a request for funds via gift cards or some other means while posing as the Pastor. The difference between this and past scams is that they are now also asking via text message as well as email.



Please know that I have alerted our Church Leaders to this new form of deceit and have directed our Office Administrator not to share the directory without a verbal confirmation from the member in question. I WILL NEVER CONTACT YOU DIRECTLY ASKING YOU FOR MONEY.

- If you receive a text or email asking for funds, it isn't me.
- If you receive an email without the quote from Jude (see below) in purple, it isn't me.
- If we have never communicated via text before, chances are it isn't me.

In the event you receive such an email, please DO NOT REPLY. Report the email as spam and delete it. And if you receive a text, please report and block the sender, and then discard the message. I have noticed that the more I block texts from people I do not know, the fewer of these texts I receive.

It seems to me that the Information Age, which began in the 1970s, has by now evolved into the Age of Personal Data. Let us take Jesus' advice to be wise about the challenges we face, while holding fast to our faith that our God in Christ is a God of Love, Mercy, Forgiveness, and Eternal Life. May the Holy Spirit bring peace to this entire world, especially the Digital World!

"May mercy, peace, and love be yours in abundance." - Jude
Anil