

July 2020



We need your input!

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

JU Responds to the Coronavirus
Update on Campus Trails
A Prayer for Our Neighborhood

As this newsletter goes to publication, at least two more weeks of social distancing is prescribed. Information and news have changed by the day, and Johnson University is making decisions based on the expertise of health professionals, the guidelines of our government, the best interest of our campus, and concern for our community.

The most recent decision of our Senior Leadership Team is to finish the spring semester with remote instruction (online classes). Most students have moved out of the dorms. Most faculty and staff are working from home. Some summer events have been canceled, and more may be canceled or rescheduled.

We welcome your feedback.
Contact Matt Johnson, Director
of Community Engagement:
MSJohnson@JohnsonU.edu.

In the unfortunate case that this crisis escalates in our area, we are communicating with local leaders to offer the use of campus facilities for emergency services. If our resources might aid the community, we want to be good neighbors. You can read more about our response to COVID-19 and the latest news at JohnsonU.edu/Coronavirus.

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The old Kimberlin Heights Park property on Bays Mountain Road has become University property, and we're looking into options to make it a community asset once more. One option we're exploring is a partnership with BlueCross BlueShield of Tennessee Foundation. Their "Healthy Place" program provides grants and support to build ten parks across the state in 2021.

The proposed park would have a pavilion, playground equipment, a sidewalk, benches, and fitness stations. If you have visited the park recently, you know a lot of work is necessary to prepare for such an improvement. This work represents a sizable investment from our University and from BlueCross.

Since the result is not just University usage but also public access, we plan to keep the community's needs front-of-mind. So, before we take another step, we're seeking your input. It is important to us that whatever we do with this property has broad community support.

We are in exploring options. With that in mind, we've created a web page to receive your feedback. Please go to **JohnsonU.edu/ParkSurvey** to share your thoughts. Your responses will be our main source of community input. The survey will allow you to tell us what you think the spot should be used for, what concerns you have, and what we need to consider as we move forward.



Share your feedback at JohnsonU.edu/ParkSurvey

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We continue to pray for our community. Families, jobs, and health have all been affected by our current crisis. We believe God's ear bend towards those who suffer. As our founder, Ashley Johnson, used to say, We work as if everything depends on work we believe as if everything depends on faith we pray as if everything depends on prayer we wait as if everything depends on waiting.