

Good Shepherd Family,

Out of consideration for the people of our worshipping community whose bodies require extra consideration and care, as well as in the interest of the preservation and protection of the physical health of all, ***all in-person gatherings at Good Shepherd are cancelled through March 30.*** No in-person classes, meetings, Bible studies, fellowship, space sharing opportunities, or worship services. The building is closed.

We are continuing to monitor updates from the CDC (Center for Disease Control and Prevention www.CDC.gov), the WHO (World Health Organization www.WHO.int), along with U-46, the Governor's office, etc. Given this, it is possible that our in-person activities will be suspended longer.

And yet, in the words of John Wesley, ***"The best of all is, God is with us."***

Our Good Shepherd staff and ministry leaders are a great blessing! Those of us who were available met on Saturday, March 14 via Zoom and brainstormed ways in which we can continue to do ministry in this new, unknown context. Here is what we will presently do:

- **We will worship from home (or wherever you might be) with the interactive online bulletin on our website that will guide you through each part of worship.** Go through at your own pace. There are audio, video, and text options to support your internet connection and your personal preferences. There is also a mobile friendly version if you decide to access worship using your mobile phone.
 - **If you do not have internet access and would like to be able to hear a recording of the sermon over the phone, OR have a copy of the sermon mailed to you** contact the church office or contact me by cell.

- **The Prayers of the People, Bible studies, meetings, and fellowship will take place via Zoom** which gives you the option to dial in using your landline, cellphone, or join using your mobile device or computer. There is a list of Meeting Rooms attached to this letter.
 - **PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE:** We will join one another in praying for one another at 10:00 a.m. on Sunday mornings and Wednesday 8:00 p.m. CST
 - Landline: Dial (312) 626 6799 and wait for the prompt that asks for the Meeting ID which is 924 624 201.
 - Cellphone 1-touch/tap dialing: +13126266799,,924624201#
 - Zoom Link: <https://zoom.us/j/924624201>
 - Please send your prayer requests during the week to goodshepherdbartlett@gmail.com or call (630) 830-3003. Leave a message if necessary.

- **The Care Team is ready to help during this time of physical isolation.** We have a team of people who are making themselves available to help in whatever ways possible (supplies, emergency child-care). If you are in need, or have been unable to get what you need (food, toilet paper, prescriptions), please contact the church office, or contact me by cell.

- **FOR CHILDREN** 🧒🧒🧒: Some of us pastor folk have gotten together to contribute to “**Stuck at Home Bible Camp.**” Each day a different person will share a Bible story and have some fun activities to do! Right now I am on the schedule for 3/17, 3/26, 3/31, and 4/6. Many thanks to my dear friend, Pastor Krista Paradiso for organizing this! You can access it by going to www.gsbartlett.com/children.
- **Make sure you reach out to each other via phone, social media, e-mail, etc. to stay connected.** You can also use the Fellowship Meeting Room if you’d like.
- **During the time of church building closure everything therein will be cleaned and sanitized.** Lori Albert is working on organizing a map and schedule to do this efficiently and safely. If you are interested in helping please await her instructions or contact her directly. It is important that we limit the number of people in this effort.
- **Our building may be closed, but ministry continues!** We can continue to give our tithes and offerings in the following ways:
 - To give online go to www.gsbartlett.com/giving.
 - To give by text message, text the dollar amount (\$X.XX) to 630-364-4154. You will receive a registration link the first time. Every time after that just enter the dollar amount.
 - To give by EFT (Electronic Funds Transfer) please contact the church office for the appropriate form.
 - To give by check you can mail your offering to the church.

Your support is most appreciated and helpful.

Please be on the look-out for more information as we continue to work together inspired by the Holy Spirit to do ministry in this new, uncharted context. If you have thoughts, ideas, or would like to volunteer in some way, please let me know. As I mentioned in my last letter:

Even when we enter the unknown, Psalm 139 tells us wherever we are: there God is. There is NO place where God is not. As we follow the leading of the Holy Spirit and take the hand of Christ to walk this unfamiliar path, may we be blessed by finding the familiar solace of Christ’s centering presence as steadfast as ever.

Please stay prayerful, healthy, and safe. **“THE BEST OF ALL IS, GOD IS WITH US.”**

God’s Grace and Peace to You,



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