

Dear Friends,

March 13, 2020

We want to update you on how our church is responding to the COVID-19 pandemic affecting our nation and our commonwealth. Before today, many healthcare and retirement facilities have already been restricting visitation and strongly urging citizens who are 60+ to self-quarantine and consider not attending events or group gatherings. Today, Friday, as many of you may know by now, the Governor of Virginia has suspended all public schools effective until March 27, 2020.

Considering these factors, and in an abundance of caution, we are making the decision to *not hold* our church services, this Sunday, March 15<sup>th</sup> or the following Sunday, March 22<sup>nd</sup>. Additionally, all other activities, such as choir practice and the Senior gathering have been postponed. We will assess the situation as we go and give updates as the weeks unfold.

Let me give you critical information you need to know about several areas of the church's operations during this time.

1) Worship Service: The worship services will be live streamed over the internet by accessing the Pleasant Hill Facebook page. A reminder and link for how to watch the service live will be sent out tomorrow (Saturday) over email. Also, the service (at least the message) will be accessible on the church webpage as usual. In addition, a letter detailing the church's response to this issue, the bulletin and a copy of the Pastor's message will be mailed out to the congregation early next week.

2) Church Office: The church office will be open at normal business hours and the secretary will be available as a point of communication.

3) Care, Needs, and Prayer: The deacons will be reaching out to their assigned families during the next couple of weeks to check on how they are doing and if there are any prayer needs or practical needs that the church can help with. If you are not sure who your assigned deacon is, please call or email the church office and we will connect you with your deacon. Please know that you can reach out to your deacon and the pastor during this time with any needs you may have!

4) Giving: Please send your tithe and offering by mail to the church (Attn: Jay) and your offering will be recorded when received.

5) Choir & Cantata Practice: The music team is working on creative ways to keep the Cantata practice during this time. All choir members and musicians are encouraged to contact Lillian directly for more information as the situation evolves.

As the weeks unfold, we will do our utmost to keep everyone connected and cared for during this unprecedented time. It is my prayer that we will see the Lord using this situation to teach us greater care for each other, for our neighbor and to be open to the ways the Spirit is always opening new opportunities that arise from challenging times.

Stay healthy and blessings to each one of you!

Pastor Rob