



March 13, 2020

Disrupted Dreams....

This Lent, our church had a plan to dream. As we approached the fourth and final phase of our Vision 2020 process, we were excited to dream together about the possibilities of the church as we Look Forward to the future together. In fact, our Lenten theme, and the topic of our small groups, has been “dreamers.” Then our dream was disrupted by COVID-19.

We have heard the invitation from many in the health and medical community to work together to mitigate the spread of the coronavirus. While we have been taking measures of precaution along the way, in an effort to slow the spread of this virus, **Holy Trinity is taking the next step: moving online and on our phone line.**

Minneapolis Area Synod Bishop Ann Svennungsen has said, “rather than social distancing, let’s practice physical distancing.” It happens to be the season of Lent, a liturgical season that invites us to focus on our faith above all else.

At Holy Trinity, we plan to take the following steps:

- 1) **Digital/Radio Worship Gatherings:** Rather than meeting in person, we invite you to worship at home for the time being, until further notice. We will have digital services via Facebook Live at our normal worship times of 9am on Sundays and 6pm on Wednesdays. Our radio service will still be broadcasted at 9am on Sundays on KCHK radio, and a video of our Sunday worship services will be found on our website.
- 2) **Online Small Groups:** Pastor Alicia has been experimenting with an online small group. Using the Moodle platform, these participants have been communicating online. We are evaluating this, as well as phone options, for all groups beginning Sunday, March 15th. Look for communication from your small group leader.
- 3) **Personal Calls/Mailings:** If you or someone you know does not use the internet and may be susceptible to isolation during this time, please let us know so we- as a congregation- can make personal calls and/or mail faith resources during this time.

A few additional considerations:

- 1) **Mission of the Month:** Our mission of the month for March is healthy snacks to give to the Peace Center, as part of a state-wide effort called MN FoodShare campaign. We don’t want to miss out on this opportunity to give, especially when we anticipate that the Peace Center will need resources more than ever. Our collection carts will remain available in the narthex, for drop-off midweek during office hours.
- 2) **Giving:** We trust that God will provide the resources needed for the church. If you typically give through an offering plate, please consider mailing your offering, giving online via our website, or sign up for automatic giving. If you need help with this process, you can call/email the church office during normal office hours.
- 3) **Pastoral Care:** Please know that you can still contact us with your prayer requests. May we turn to God in prayer individually, and collectively. Please feel free to email your prayer requests to the pastors, or call the church office.
- 4) **Stay Connected:** Please make sure that you stay connected with Holy Trinity through this time, by making sure the church office has your updated contact information.

May God’s peace be with you during this time,
Pastors Alicia and Ben Hilding

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