

Dear Holy Trinity community,

March 18, 2020

Thank you! Thank you for your flexibility and your courage as we seek to navigate these uncharted waters of COVID-19. This is a difficult time and we want you to know that we care. God is with you!

Our church will continue to “be the church,” just in a new way. We believe the Holy Spirit is capable of finding new ways to form community and faith, even when we have obstacles in front of us. The Holy Spirit broke the language barrier at the Pentecost so that people could be reached through new languages and tongues. Today, I marvel at how the Holy Spirit is speaking through new languages such as Facebook Live, Moodle, Zoom, etc.

We want you to know your church is here for you, but our presence is going to look different for a while.

We have moved all church activities to an online or virtual format. Our building is closed to anyone other than staff.

In addition, starting Friday, March 20th, until the CDC recommends otherwise, we will be postponing all weddings, funerals, and baptisms.

We have made this decision not out of fear, but out of love; love for the most vulnerable populations, love for our healthcare providers, and love for the community as we face this challenge together.

We will share updates with you via Facebook and our website, and will look to do so through email as well. If you are not receiving updates, please do not hesitate to call the church office (952-758-3513). Jamie Bisek will be happy to get you connected.

As we seek to be creative with ministry opportunities, here is what you can expect:

Worship - Sundays at 9am and Wednesdays at 6pm

We will worship together through Facebook Live on Sundays at 9am, and Wednesdays at 6pm. Please get in the rhythm of setting aside that time for worship. Make it a holy space-- light a candle and open your Bible. Invite your facebook friends to join you. A video of that service will subsequently be posted on our webpage:

www.holytrinityonline.org, and an audio recording can be heard the following Sunday on KCHK radio (9am).

Small Groups

We have asked our small group leaders to shift their small groups online to Moodle groups. We will look to update those discussion guides weekly so that these conversations can be ongoing.

Daily Devotional

Holy Trinity has a daily devotional posted on our church Facebook page. You are invited to set aside time in the morning to begin the day with prayer, with God.

Confirmation Groups

Our confirmation students are asked to tune in to worship on Wednesdays at 6pm, and then respond to their small groups afterwards, which have moved to Moodle.

Children's Ministry

Pastor Alicia and the children's ministry team have been working on making a weekly children's ministry experience activity to do at home. If you would like to be added to this email list, email alicia@holytrinityonline.org.

Little Free Food Pantry

Holy Trinity has a Little Free Food Pantry. Stocked 24/7, there is food for those who need it. Want to help others? You can put donations directly in the Pantry. Need help? It's available to anyone. No questions asked.

Support Groups

We are working with the leaders of AA to make sure that critical support can continue in some fashion. If you are part of an AA, Al-Anon, or CODA group at Holy Trinity, please contact your leader for more information.

Caring Ministry

We know there will be some tough moments for all of us. Don't hesitate to contact the pastors or the church office with prayer concerns. Or if you simply need to talk. We are here for you.

Giving

For those of you who normally give your offerings when you come to worship, Thank You in advance for continuing your faithful giving. On our website, you can find these ways to give: 1) Donate online, 2) GivePlus Church App, or 3) enroll in Simply Giving. You may also continue to send in a check through the mail as well.

Pray

As we navigate these days and weeks, one thing is not taken away from us: the gift of prayer. Please pray for those on the front lines of this challenge. Pray for those who are making decisions regarding how we navigate this pandemic. Pray for those who don't have a safe home or who find themselves in dire positions. Pray for those who are sick and for their families. God is there to listen.

God is with you. We care. We are going to get through this. God's peace and presence to each of you.

In Christ,
Pastors Alicia and Ben Hilding