

With COVID-19 cases rising to alarming levels, our school system transitioning to distance learning, and the Christmas season approaching, you may be wondering what this means for our church. We have answered our three top questions as clearly as possible below.

- 1. We recently completed a worship survey, what are the plans for worship this holiday season?
  - The recent worship survey was an intentional listening effort to seek input from the whole congregation. Our COVID-19 decisions are based on our faith, current health facts, and feelings of the congregation. Based on these three motivators, we have determined it is best to stay in phase 2 of our COVID-19 Preparedness Plan and remain online/outdoors only through the end of the 2020 year. We will review our plans once a month, or as otherwise necessary. We long to be worshipping together in person, but we want to do so when we feel it is safer to do so.
- 2. Will we be able to have our traditions of the Community Thanksgiving Meal and Christmas Tea?
  - Yes! We will be having both the Community Thanksgiving Meal and Christmas Tea. Check out the latest HTLConnections, our website, or call the office for more details!
    - <u>The Community Thanksgiving Meal has been re-imagined to be a "Thanksgiving Meal in a Bag" which will be a Drive-Thru event on Sunday, November 22nd.</u> Donna, HTLC's Hospitality Coordinator, with the help of a few Kitchen Team Volunteers will be preparing a "Meal in a Bag" that will feed 4-6 people. While this event is typically made possible by food donations, our public health has strongly discouraged donations such as this to happen. Gratefully, HTLC's Endowment Fund has made this year's meal possible by covering the cost of the meal provisions. Please share with anyone who may appreciate the invitation.
    - <u>Christmas Tea has also been re-imagined to be called "Christmas Tea, Plan B"</u> which will be a door drop and virtual event on Sunday, December 6th. Thanks to Co-hosts Darcey Schoenebeck and Kim Gassner, this will be an uplifting opportunity to connect with other gals in the community.
- 3. How can I help to live out our vision to share God's love for all people from one generation to another" during this COVID-19 season?
  - Stay Connected! While it is not the same, it is good to be in worship together online! Please make worship a priority! We need each other. Please let us know if you are struggling so we can pray for you and support you in any way we can. If you are doing ok, please reach out and check-in with others.

Thank you for your ministry partnership and faithful prayers, Pastors Ben and Alicia