



...loving God and worshiping Him as we impact our area by teaching and discipling people for Jesus Christ.

March 13, 2020

Dear Grace Covenant,

No doubt you are aware of the growing seriousness of the spread of COVID-19 (Coronavirus). As of today, March 12, there are no confirmed cases of the virus in the Paulding County community so far, however, there are some in the surrounding counties, including Cobb, Bartow, and Polk. You can keep track of the latest information about confirmed cases in Georgia at this website.

As Christians we are called to love God and our neighbors, which includes trusting God in difficult situations rather than getting caught up in fear and hysteria, as well as, watching out for the vulnerable and weak, and submitting to our government officials. The Westminster Confession teaches that "there are some circumstances concerning the worship of God,...which are to be ordered by the light of nature, and Christian prudence," so, as we want to pass on to you what we believe is prudent given this ongoing challenge and our calling to love God and neighbor.

As of right now we WILL continue to have our normally scheduled events this weekend - Men's Breakfast on Saturday morning, and Sunday School, Worship/Installation service, and Fellowship Lunch this Sunday.

But we will be instituting the following proactive and precautionary steps in accordance to the suggestions of the government agencies keeping track of the situation. Here is what we will be implementing for the indefinite future:

DOORS

All doors that require you to touch a door knob to open will be propped open so that no one has to touch them to go in or out. The front doors and the doors to the sanctuary will be held open or propped open in order to minimize the need for touching door handles, and those working the doors will be wearing plastic gloves.

GREETING

We encourage you to wave and smile at one another rather than shake hands and give hugs. No "holy" kisses! (or unholy for that matter!)

SANITATION

There will be volunteers with Lysol wipes patrolling around key areas to keep doors and surfaces sanitized. There will hand-sanitizer stationed throughout the building.

COFFEE & FOOD

Those preparing the coffee will do so wearing plastic gloves. For men's breakfast and our Fellowship

Lunch following the service, we will have persons wearing plastic gloves who will dish out the food instead of having everyone touching the food utensils individually.

BULLETINS

We will put the entire service on slides so that you don't have to get a paper bulletin if you don't want to. For those who do want a paper bulletin, they will be available on the tables at the doors of the sanctuary - but no one will be handing them out. Additionally, an electronic version of the bulletin will be sent out to the congregation that can be viewed on your electronic devices.

OFFERING

We will provide a place for you to drop off your offering instead of passing around the offering plates. Additionally, you can make your offering electronically through our website.

GENERAL HYGIENE PRACTICES

Along with these previous steps, we encourage you to practice general hygiene practices of washing your hands with soap and water, avoid touching face, eyes, nose, and mouth, and remain at home if there is ANY sign or symptoms of sickness.

As the situation develops we will continue to monitor the situation and the need to take any further action if deemed necessary. Should there be any changes or new information that comes to light, we will keep you informed.

On behalf of the session, deacons, deacons assistants, and women's ministry,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Pastor David". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

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