



March 16, 2020

Dear Cross & Crown Friends,

In keeping with the Governor's executive order to halt all mass gatherings in the state, along with our Synod Bishop's similar caution, and with attention to the dangers of the Coronavirus and the vulnerability of many in our congregation, the Executive Council and your pastors have agreed to cancel worship services (Sunday worship, Lenten services), Wednesday Night Happenings, choir rehearsals, and other activities through the end of March. Our WeekDay School is also closed for the next two weeks, and Scout meetings and activities are postponed as well. Pending further recommendations from authorities, our next gathering of WNH, midweek worship and music rehearsals will be Wednesday, April 1.

If you are a member of a small group that meets regularly, please check with your group leader about whether the group will meet. Our Executive Team and Congregation Council will have scheduled March meetings by conference call and communicate further as needed.

The church office will be open for its regular hours (8:30 a.m.-2:00 p.m. Mon-Fri), and we will produce a newsletter for the Friday eBlast. If you have questions or concerns, be in touch through the office or one of the pastors. While our office will continue to be staffed, please know we appreciate phone calls and email contacts, understanding everyone's need to 'keep their distance' in these difficult days.

Please be attentive during this time to our website and Facebook page, as updates and current information will continue to be posted there. We look forward to offering virtual worship on Sunday, March 22, and Sunday, March 29. Thank you to Pastor Brook for offering yesterday's sermon and prayers using Facebook Live. Later this week more information will be provided for accessing next Sunday's worship.

While we are not gathering for worship, the church's financial obligations continue, as does our Lord's call to each of us to be generous. We ask that you mail or drop off your check, or use electronic giving through your bank, Simply Giving or Tithe.ly. You will find a GIVE option on our website's main menu that opens the Tithe.ly app. Thank you for keeping contributions current while we are apart.

We also want to be attentive to each other in this difficult time, especially to older or more vulnerable members of our congregation. Please do what you can to stay in touch with encouragement and prayer. Send a card, make a call, drop off a needed item to someone who may not be comfortable leaving home to get it. The Congregation Care team can offer other suggestions for these caring activities. Contact Susan Arcuri at [ssarcuri@carolina.rr.com](mailto:ssarcuri@carolina.rr.com) if you want to get involved. And please keep the pastors informed if you find out someone needs additional support.

Blessings and peace as you navigate this difficult time. We pray for all of you and ask for your prayers as well. Every year during Lent we wait prayerfully, considering the great gift of our Lord's love and his very life, given for us. Resurrection is coming, without fail. We hold to that promise, especially now.

*Your Executive Council and Pastors*