## Dear Andover Family:



I realize most of us have never experienced such a pandemic as we are currently encountering. There is a wide range of responses people have regarding this crisis and we are reminded in all things to faithfully trust and cast our cares upon the Lord our God.

The Elders have decided it is in our best interest to <u>cancel</u> service for this Sunday. As you may know all public gatherings are encouraged to discontinue/cease until further notice. We feel it's best in these extenuating circumstances to heed their recommendation for this Sunday. As you know we're all doing the best we can to navigate through this with the information available therefore the Elders will revisit the topic of meeting together every week with the hopes this is not prolonged.

We need to be in prayer for those directly affected by this virus, along with doctors, nurses, health professionals, the President and governors. We also need to pray for a vaccine that comes swiftly. Let us also pray for protection for our church family. I love my church family and will miss even one week not gathering together due to such a cancellation.

As we head into the weekend, I want to reassure you of some things.

1. If you or anyone you know has a need, financial or otherwise, please let one of the Elders or Deacons know ASAP. We will personally try to meet your needs. Our Deacons and Elders are busy contacting families to make sure everyone is okay. Though this is a vulnerable time I believe it's one of the greatest opportunities to shine the light of Jesus. I caution any Christian against hoarding which leads to missed opportunities to do good. Let's remember what the Bible says,

"Let love be genuine. Abhor what is evil; hold fast to what is good. Love one another with brotherly affection. Outdo one another in showing honor. Do not be slothful in zeal, be fervent in spirit, serve the Lord. Rejoice in hope, be patient in tribulation, be constant in prayer. Contribute to the needs of the saints and seek to show hospitality. Bless those who persecute you; bless and do not curse them. Rejoice with those who rejoice, weep with those who weep. Live in harmony with one another. Do not be haughty, but associate with the lowly. Never be wise in your own sight." Romans 12

## Elder/Deacon contact information:

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Randy Hudson: 859-948-9117 (Elder)
Eddie Schwarberg: 859-556-1441 (Elder)
Corey Brown: 423-333-4243 (Deacon)
Joe Nichols: 859-270-1660 (Deacon)
Isaiah Normant: 859-433-8104 (Deacon)

Let's do our best to stay connected. Reach out to any of those listed via phone call or text should you have any questions or requests. We truly want to minister and be available to each of you. This is what *church family* is all about.

**2. From a church financial standpoint, I will not beg you or anyone for money.** That is not, nor ever will be, my priority. If you choose to give, that is between you and the Lord. Our online giving has been up and running for several months. Feel free to utilize online giving to help our church bless others, fulfill the Great Commission, and pay the bills. It's quick, safe, and easy to give online. You can also mail in your tithe to 3330 Todds Road, Lexington Ky 40509. You may contact Susan Caudill at 263-7652 for any questions. (https://app.clovergive.com/app/giving/the3330282).

**3. I want to encourage you to have family worship on Sunday morning.** I have emphasized the importance of family worship for the past few years. It's a time to sing, pray, read the Bible and preach the gospel as a family. This is one of the beautiful aspects of the Priesthood of believers. We will not be livestreaming the service this Sunday. I agree with Pastor/author Mark Dever who has stated, "A video of a sermon is not a substitute for a covenanted congregation assembling together and all the various means of God's grace in that. I think it would be healthier to respect God's strange providence in a period of abstinence from meeting together."

Last week's sermon will be uploaded to our website should you have missed it. <a href="http://churchatandover.org/sermons">http://churchatandover.org/sermons</a>

Feel free to utilize the family worship guide during family worship. http://churchatandover.org/about-us/family-worship-guides

**4.** Considering our midweek services are being postponed I want you to stay connected with my John 1-3 online study. I will be uploading this teaching series on the church Facebook and YouTube Page every Monday, Wednesday, and Friday. These studies are about 5-10 minutes each in length. Utilize this time to mark in your Bible, take notes, pray, etc.

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UiwM9A6kxXE

The Elders will meet next week to discuss gathering together for Sunday March 29, 2020.

We love you. We are here for you and praying for you.

This too shall pass, and we will get through this together.

Love and grace to you,

Pastor Eddie