

Basehor United Methodist Church
CORONAVIRUS RESPONSE
Updated March 23, 2020 11:00am

At Basehor United Methodist Church we take the health and well-being of our congregation, staff and community very seriously. Please continue to pray for those who are affected by this virus – those who are ill, the medical professionals treating them, the scientists working on vaccines and cures, those with mental health concerns, and the leaders making tough decisions to try and curb the spread of the virus and keep us safe, as well as those who are feeling lonely and isolated at this time. We are monitoring coronavirus (COVID-19) updates from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), medical professionals, and local health departments. In addition to ongoing efforts to maintain a safe and healthy environment, we have temporarily implemented the following precautionary measures. We have plans in place for additional actions if necessitated by the severity of the outbreak.

PERSONAL RESPONSIBILITY

- If you or a family member is sick, may have been directly exposed to the virus or have traveled to a high-alert area, please follow the CDC guidelines and refrain from church services, programs and events during the 14-day incubation period and instead worship with us online.
- Follow the guidelines from the CDC and the Leavenworth County Health Department to help prevent the spread of the virus. (General guidelines listed at the end of this document.)

WORSHIP

- Worship will be online only until further notice. A live stream can be found at facebook.com/basehorumc
- A recorded version of the service will be available for later viewing on our website or Facebook page.
- Please use our online giving and online prayer request options. You may also mail donations to the church.
- You may view, download and print this week's bulletin at Basehorumc.org/worship

CONGREGATIONAL CARE

- Weddings and funerals will be addressed as they are scheduled.
- Hospitals and care facilities are beginning to limit visitors. When possible, the Pastor will make hospital visits unless they have been exposed to the virus or are in a risk category. They will diligently wash hands before and after every visit, and temporarily refrain from touching patients' hands.
- In healthcare facilities that are closed to visitors, we will remain connected with patients and residents by phone calls and notes.

SMALL GROUPS, CHOIRS, AND SUPPORT GROUPS

- Volunteers, leaders and participants should take precautions appropriate for their own personal health situation.
- WOW! (Word on Wednesday) is cancelled until further notice. Online resources for families will be available. Check our website and social media.
- Youth Group will not meet in person until further notice. Online and other meeting options will be announced.
- All other gatherings are cancelled through April 23rd.
- Confirmation will be cancelled and rescheduled in the Fall 2020.
- Choirs will not practice until further notice.

MISSIONS

- Bridges of Hope will continue as planned. Extra precautions will be made to limit exposure of the virus to volunteers and the community.
- The Food Pantry will continue weekly. Changes will be implemented to adhere to CDC guidelines. BUMC will support the Basehor-Linwood Assistance Services in implementing changes when able.
- We are working closely with our mission partners, food pantries, schools and agencies to determine their needs and ways in which BUMC can help during this time.
- Opportunities to serve others during this time will be shared as our community's response develops.

STAFF & VOLUNTEERS

- Help us ensure the health of our community. For appointments with church staff members, please contact them by phone.
- Our staff and volunteers are committed to maintaining a healthy environment by reducing interpersonal contact and washing hands frequently.
- Staff members and volunteers who are sick, or have been around someone with active symptoms, will stay home for the recommended quarantine period.
- As the situation evolves, our staff will continue to connect with volunteers and congregants through email and phone calls to keep you updated on cancellations and program changes.

FACILITIES AND BUILDINGS

- The Church Office will be closed to visitors until April 23rd.
- Outside group meetings will be rescheduled and/or cancelled.
- The church building will be closed except for the metal building which will be used by the food pantry.

YOU CAN BE A LIGHT IN A TIME OF CRISIS

- Pray for those who are affected by this virus – those who are ill, the medical professionals treating them, the scientists working on vaccines and cures, those with mental health concerns, and the leaders making tough decisions to try and curb the spread of the virus and keep us safe, as well as those who are feeling lonely at this time – please reach out to anyone you think might be feeling isolated over the next few weeks.
- Educate yourself about the Coronavirus from credible and reliable sources, such as from the World Health Organization, the CDC, and the Leavenworth County Health Department.
- Know the symptoms and have a plan for what you would do if you or a family member were to become sick.
- Check on your friends and neighbors. If you know someone who may not have internet access, give them a call and share the information in this email. If the virus spreads through our community as predicted, we can continue to reach out and care for one another through phone calls, emails and social media.
- As the virus spreads, many doctors and nurses will be working long hours. Consider ways you can bless these medical professionals with acts of kindness and notes of appreciation.
- Remember this is temporary. Our church continues to serve our congregation and community. Continue to be a part of the ministry – the need for the support you give in the Kansas City area and around the world continues despite the pandemic. Watch your email for opportunities to serve individually or in smaller groups.
- Please continue your financial support of the work of the church. Many of you have set up your tithes and offerings to be automatically given. If you haven't, you can give your tithes and offering online, or you can mail a check to the church at

Basehor United Methodist Church
Attn: Finance
18660 158th Street, Basehor, KS 66607.

YOU CAN HELP PREVENT THE SPREAD OF THE VIRUS

- Avoid large gatherings of people and close contact with people who are sick.
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose, and mouth.
- Cover your cough or sneeze with a tissue, then throw the tissue in the trash. Stay home when you are sick.
- Clean and disinfect frequently touched objects and surfaces using a regular household cleaning spray or wipe.
- Wash your hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds, especially after going to the bathroom; before eating; and after blowing your nose, coughing, or sneezing, and, if soap and water are not readily available, use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer with at least 60% alcohol.