

Dear Felida Family,

In light of the latest actions by our governor and recommendations from the CDC, the elders are extending our cancellations to include all Felida Bible Church gatherings not previously affected, including small groups, Teen Accountability Groups, and all others. **These cancellations will remain in effect at least until March 31st**, the date set by governor Inslee. **The Zone, Good News Club and The Voyage will be cancelled as long as the schools are closed**, which at this time is scheduled to last through April 24th. The church office will continue to remain open during regular office hours unless otherwise announced.

Opinions will no doubt differ on the necessity of all the closures happening statewide; however, we continue to believe that closing our facilities and canceling our group meetings is the most loving thing we can do right now in light of the circumstances. Our Lord's command to love our neighbors as ourselves certainly applies, and we don't want to unnecessarily cause our neighbors to think we are indifferent to their welfare by gathering together in spite of the recommendations of our governing officials and the medical community.

On the contrary, we encourage you to use this opportunity to check with your neighbors, especially if they are elderly or have health issues, and ask if they have a need you might be able to help with (such as getting groceries or other essentials). If you yourself are in a high risk category and have such a need, please call the church office and let us know. On the other hand, if you are able to run errands and obtain items for those in need, let the office know by phone call or email (secretary@felida.org) so we can connect you opportunities as they arise.

Also, we want you to know that we are working on ideas for connecting online as a church family for encouragement and instruction from God's word. We will let you know about any plans as soon as we can.

Once again, we encourage you to resist the temptation to be afraid, as none of this is taking our gracious Father in heaven by surprise. Indeed, it is a good reminder to all of us of how little control we actually have over so many things we take for granted. God alone is sovereign, and he rules over all things according to his wisdom to accomplish his good purposes (see James 4:13-15 and Romans 8:28-39).

Continue to pray for each other and for our world. Pray that the truth and love of Jesus will spread greatly in this time of crisis and opportunity. Pray that we would demonstrate the kind of confidence and joy in Christ that would lead others to ask us about the hope we have (see 1 Peter 3:15). And pray that we will extend compassion in Christ's name to those who are hurting and fearful.

Again, please feel free to contact any of the elders with concerns or questions you may have (Dan Abitz, 360-241-6980; Kevin Gadaire, 360-909-6577; Scott Roberson, 360-798-0272; Gregg Swanson, 360-571-2414).

For the elders,

Pastor Scott