



March 13, 2020

Dear Trinity,

Grace and peace in the name of the Triune God.

I write to you today in this unfamiliar territory of the times in which we live. Over the course of the last couple of days, I have been in conversation with congregational leadership and colleagues and have been listening to the experts and local leaders on all matters of COVID-19. Based on all of the rapidly-changing information, Gov. DeWine's orders as of yesterday, March 12, and our desire to do what is most loving for our entire wider community, **we have made the decision to cancel worship and almost all church-related activities for the next three weeks.**

We will continue our outreach ministry during this time and will be working with local partners to accommodate enhanced needs in our community. Information regarding our outreach efforts will be communicated via our website and social-media outlets as well as by word-of-mouth as much as possible.

While the governor did not strictly prohibit religious gatherings, all medical professionals are encouraging as little social contact as possible in order to help slow the spread of this disease. Our decision has not been made lightly, but is very much rooted in the call and commandment of Jesus to love our neighbors. Please take care of yourself in this time and be mindful of your family, friends and strangers.

I will continue to be available to you during this time. Please remember that if you need something, you must make that need known. I can always be reached on my cell phone at 740-680-2034 or via email [pastorsaracogsil@gmail.com](mailto:pastorsaracogsil@gmail.com).

Your continued financial support is also very much appreciated. You are welcome to make online donations as well as mail your contribution to the church. [www.trinitylakewood.org/support](http://www.trinitylakewood.org/support)

**As of now we plan to gather again as a community of faith on Sunday, April 5 for worship and for our first congregational listening session. It is our hope and prayer that we will be able to do so and we will keep you informed in the coming weeks.**

These are unprecedented times, but I trust that we can be the church of Jesus Christ for one another. Let us stay connected even as our connection looks different than usual.

Peace be yours,

Pastor Sara