



SPBC Family & Friends,

We are entering uncharted waters. In a span of a few days, our government officials have limited public assembly from 250, to 50, to 10 people. As we look at other parts of the world and country it is easy to see trends of further limitations and discomfort. It will be easy to be fearful and play the “*what if...?*” game. We need to pray for mindfulness of God’s control and care in our circumstances.

At SPBC we want to be a beacon of hope in our community. Therefore, we will express faith, hope, and love at least in the following 3 ways.

1. **We will respect civil authorities to minimize the spread of Covid-19 by canceling all mass gatherings.** Effective immediately and until further notice, SPBC will not host any regular worship gatherings or ministry events. We want to prepare for not meeting through the month of April, if not going into May or perhaps further depending on our community status. We simply do not know the future but we trust God to guide and guard our steps.
 - 1.1. Cancellations include all community organizations: AA weekly meetings, HOA groups, Talking About Curing Autism monthly, Classical Conversations weekly.
 - 1.2. Counseling groups Heartsong and Life Christian Counseling may continue. These will continue due to the nature of their meetings being one-on-one/few and to serve those needing continued mental health during a stressful season of life.

2. **We will gather virtually and utilize online platforms for communication.** Cancellations of services and events remind us the church is not about a building or a program but about the people. Honestly, as church family and friends, it is a challenge to observe social distancing and cancel gatherings. In effort to maintain connections and support with one another we will be making plans to utilize various online platforms.
 - 2.1. We are encouraging everyone to consider using online technology during this season.
 - 2.1.1. Facebook www.facebook.com
 - 2.1.2. Downloading ZOOM to their computer and/or mobile device. Click link to register an account: <https://zoom.us/home?zcid=2478>
 - 2.1.3. Find SPBC sermon archive <https://www.spbcmd.com/media>
 - 2.2. **Sundays 10:45am** we will livestream or post video (virtual) on Facebook or YouTube with a worship time. We’ll finalize the platform as soon as possible, but will likely be either:
 - If on Facebook, you can see it right off our page: <https://www.facebook.com/spbcmd/>
 - If on YouTube, you should be able to find it from: <https://tinyurl.com/YOUTUBESPBCMD>
 - 2.2.1. We encourage everyone to treat virtual worship similar to live worship. Be attentive, without distraction, to all that will be presented. There may be music, prayers, Scripture readings, testimonies, sermons, etc. It will be up to you whether you wear pajamas, but we do recommend coffee first ☺.



2.2.2. Additionally, we encourage each household before/after worship to have a time of prayer for themselves, for our church, for our community, and for our nation. <https://growinggodlygenerations.com/2020/03/17/a-prayer-for-facing-covid-19/>

2.2.3. Further, we encourage church members to maintain regular giving of tithes and offerings. You may do so through mail or utilizing our safe, secure, and simple online methods found here: <https://www.spbcmd.com/give>.

2.3. **Mondays 6:33pm** some of our church leaders will be communicating online on with Pastor Dave to discuss weekly ministry aims and prayer requests. Pastor Dave will be contacting leaders for utilizing Zoom online meetings.

2.3.1. Our Pastor/Deacons will be contacting all church members to discern needs and prayer requests during this time. We want to minister to church family, especially our seniors who may not be able to get out as easily and spend lengths of time in long grocery lines.

2.3.2. If you have recommendations for a church member or know a neighbor in need of assistance, please forward the person's name, contact information, and need to Pastor/Deacons.

2.3.3. If you would like to volunteer to help meet needs or deliver items, please contact Pastor Dave or your Deacon (Bible Group leader). Also see #3 below.

2.4. **Tuesdays 6:33pm** someone will either send a video on Facebook or create a live ZOOM meeting for a family devotional with an audience in mind of those having younger children. We'll receive questions and interact together on the comments.

2.4.1. At this time we are not planning a separate format for Youth (Teens). However, Pastor Dave is open to suggestions with parental permission/involvement and consensus of time.

2.5. **Thursdays 6:33pm** someone will either send a video on Facebook/email or create a live ZOOM meeting for a devotional from the bible with an adult audience in mind. Again, there will be opportunities for comment interaction and prayer requests.

2.6. **Regularly** we will post on Facebook and email communication with prayer requests of church family, ministry announcements, and important items. We will not communicate perfectly, but we will do our best to be available and share how we are responding to the times and needs at hand. We appreciate your patience, grace, and prayers.

3. **We will bless others and love our neighbors.** Each week we will discuss and challenge each other to be creative and compassionate in the ways we serve right where we are. God has orchestrated circumstances to mobilize His church outside the walls and into the neighborhoods. Jesus stands ready to meet us outside the camp and dwell in the tension and trials of others (cf. Hebrews 13:13).

3.1. We have a list of general community resources but would like to promote others, especially during this season of significant stress and need. Help us gather resources to serve our community. <https://www.spbcmd.com/connect/emergency-prep>

3.2. We will offer to pray with individuals over phone, text, email. We believe God gives peace emotionally and spiritually.