Lighthouse Presbyterian Church



1402 E. 303rd Street Paola, KS 66071 913-294-2400

April 3, 2020

Dear Family and Friends of Lighthouse Church, Paola,

As we navigate this ever-changing season of real life pain and hardship, we need to remember the promises of God and the words of our Savior Jesus: *In this world you will have tribulation; but be of good cheer, for I have overcome the world* (John 16:33). He promised us hardship, and he promised us his victory. It actually sounds a lot like the current season of Lent/Holy Week: even though we will endure the dark day of his death, his very death and subsequent resurrection did indeed overcome the world. So let us rest secure in his victory.

As this COVID-19 pandemic continues, we want to keep communicating as best we can. Here is our most recent update on our ministry and worship plans during the National emergency surrounding COVID-19. We want to do our part to help stop the spread of COVID-19, so we are extending our cancellation of all official church activities through April 30th. Limiting physical contact at this time is an act of love to our community. Therefore, we have temporarily implemented the following precautionary measures.

WORSHIP

- Going to online worship for the remainder of April (we will re-evaluate by April 30th). Please feel free to join us online on Sunday mornings at 10:00am. You can join us through the following:
 - Website: www.paolalighthouse.com/ (check website for all up-to-date information)
 - o Facebook: www.facebook.com/Lighthouse-Church-Paola-219012411623610/
 - o YouTube: www.youtube.com/channel/UCxFBa4pM0gItmdPADxR_aIw/featured
- Pastor Kirk and Pastor Brad have been providing daily teaching and devotional content to our online platforms. Please go to the website, Facebook, or YouTube to view and respond in worship.
- Please continue to give even though we will not meet together on Sunday mornings. It is an encouragement to all and allows us to pass it on. We have several ways you can continue:
 - o Website: www.paolalighthouse.com/giving
 - Mail: Lighthouse Church, 1402 E. 303rd St, Paola, KS 66071
 - Online: https://my.simplegive.com/App/Giving/Ligh1402621
 - Text: 913-294-7987. Please specify the fund you would like to donate to.

BUILDING AND FACILITIES

- The entire church will be locked through April 30th (we will re-evaluate at that time).
- The only door that will be accessible will be the front doors to the office and Sanctuary.
- There will be limited staff on-hand and if you come during working hours of 10:00am to 3:00pm, please ring the doorbell or call at 913-294-2400. (If staff needs to be quarantined, this process will be changed.)
- There will be no access into the building before or after office hours.

CONGREGATIONAL CARE

- Our Deacons Care Team will continue to focus on care for our congregation, while taking precautions to protect everyone's health and prevent the spread of the virus. Care Team members will diligently wash hands before and after every "visit" in delivery of needed supplies or encouragement.
- While care facilities are on lock down, "visits" will be made via e-mails, personal calls, texts, cards/notes.
- We are initially focusing with those over 60, but will welcome calls with needs from any in our church family and friends at this time. Our main concern is to remain connected with our congregation with care and love.
- We encourage you to keep us informed of prayer concerns and needs that you may have.

SMALL GROUPS, CLASSES AND COMMITTEES

• At this time, all classes, small groups and committees have been suspended from meeting at the Church through April 30th (we will re-evaluate at that time).

STAFF

- Staff who are sick, or have been around someone with active symptoms, will stay home for the recommended quarantine period.
- If you need to contact a staff member, please do so via phone or email as listed below:

Kirk Johnston
Brad Buescher
Rebecca Sutton
Erin Capettini
Tracey Hecker
Eli Wedde (Youth)
Josh Simons (Children)
Brad Buescher
brad@paolalighthouse.com
rebecca@paolalighthouse.com
erin@paolalighthouse.com
tracey@paolalighthouse.com
eliasray31@gmail.com
josh@paolalighthouse.com

PRAYER

- We are actively praying for you and for each other. Please join us and continue to pray for our church community, nation leaders, as well as Miami County and worldwide.
- Our Prayer Team and Staff continue to pray for those on our prayer list. Prayer communication is ongoing and ever present.
- Please don't hesitate to let us know how we can pray for you. You may contact the church office with any prayer concerns for you, family, and friends:

o Website: www.paolalighthouse.com/prayer

o Email: rebecca@paolalighthouse.com

o Call: 913-294-2400

With you In Christ,

Pastor Kirk Johnston and Pastor Brad Buescher

HOLY WEEK SCHEDULE

Sunday, April 5th – Palm Sunday	10:00am	Online Worship Only
Thursday, April 9th – Maundy Thursday	6:30pm	Online Worship Only
	7:00pm – 7:30pm	Drive Thru Communion
Friday, April 10 th – Good Friday	All Day	Prayer and Fasting (on own at home)
Sunday, April 12 th – Easter Sunday	6:50am	Online Worship Only
	10:00am	Online Worship Only
	11:30am – 12:30pm	Drive Thru Offering & Donation

PALM SUNDAY - APRIL 5TH

We will have worship live stream at 10:00am. To view go to www.paolalighthouse.com/worship_online.

MAUNDY THURSDAY - APRIL 9TH

On Maundy Thursday, April 9th at 6:30pm we will worship together virtually. To view live stream go to www.paolalighthouse.com/worship_online. During worship we will bless the elements and directly following this service the Lighthouse pastors and staff invite you to *Drive Thru* our church parking lot to receive a self-contained communion cup so that you can participate in the Lord's Supper. This will also give us an opportunity to see one another in person without worrying about contamination. We hope you can join us.

For those over 60 and those unable to come to the drive thru, Care Bags will be delivered on the morning of April 9th, which will include the communion cups for the number of people in the household. To make sure we cover all, please e-mail rebecca@paolalighthouse.com or call the church office 913-294-2400 if you wish to receive and haven't received a phone call by Tuesday, April 7th.

GOOD FRIDAY - APRIL 10TH

On Good Friday, April 10th all Evangelical Presbyterian Churches (along with several other denominations) have been asked to set aside this day as a day of prayer and fasting to cry out for God's help in addition to a day of worship. The following appeal comes from our Stated Clerk, Jeff Jeremiah:

The whole world is in the throes of a coronavirus pandemic that is spreading death, illness, economic turmoil, unemployment, isolation, panic, and fear. In such desperate times, the people of God should humble themselves and pray to almighty God for His grace, mercy, and love to heal us, restore us, and relieve us from this crushing burden of disease. Below are some recommended resources for your encouragement in this area.

A Guide to Prayer and Fasting www.epc.org/files/goodfridayprayerfastingguide

<u>Suggested Prayers</u> <u>www.epc.org/files/goodfridaysuggestedprayers</u>

EASTER SUNDAY – APRIL 12TH

Worship: We will have two (2) services. To view go to www.paolalighthouse.com/worship_online. Service 1: Weather permitting, we will celebrate the resurrection by live streaming the sunrise from Lake Miola! Then we will have a 35 minute worship service from the shoreline. Time is flexible here –but our live stream will begin just before 7:00am.

Service 2: Is at 10:00am and we will be live streaming Easter Worship.

Easter Day Drive Thru: Following our 10:00am worship service you are once again invited to get out of your house, drive to the church parking lot and bless God through your generosity. Our church staff and Generosity Team will be there from 11:30am-12:30pm to bless and thank you...at a six foot distance. You will have two opportunities to share your financial gifts with others:

Easter Offering: Thank you to all who continue to give faithfully during this time. For those who have lost jobs permanently or for the time being, we understand. Please take care of your family. For those who are still employed, please know at this time your offerings really matter and make possible the continued ministry of Lighthouse Church. *Dollar Day Donation*: Your extra donation of one dollar (or more if you wish) will be given to two families in our church body who particularly need your help right now.

Children's Ministry: Please bring your children with you for the Easter Day Drive Thru because Josh Simons and our Children's Ministry Team would like to bless them by giving back Easter boxes they had been promised at the beginning of the Lenten Season.