



# Trinity Lutheran Church

The Lutheran Church, Missouri Synod  
The Reverend Drew A. Newman, Pastor

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March 17, 2020

Fellow Saints and Members of Trinity Parish,

The Psalmist wrote in Psalm 46: “God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble.” These words inspired our father in the faith, Dr. Luther, in the midst of the Black Plague, to write his most well known hymn, “A Mighty Fortress.”

You and I would do well to heed the words of both the Psalmist and this hymn as we contemplate the situation we find ourselves in with the onset of the Coronavirus pandemic. God *will* help and sustain us in the faith as we continue to put our trust in Him and hear and heed His Word!

As a member of our congregation you should know that I and the leadership of Trinity Parish have been meeting and considering what would be the most wise and prudent actions to take in light of this situation.

After prayerful consideration and sound advice from both the CDC, the Synod, District and Circuit leadership, we have decided that for the health and well-being of our membership, both young and old, that we will be suspending all face-to-face activities until the end of March. As we move into the future we will be constantly re-evaluating this plan and advising the membership.

In the meantime, I will be making available sermons and other devotional resources for our members and anyone who would like to access them. These will be available via e-mail, Facebook, our website and YouTube. Specific details will be forwarded to you as they become available. Our website ([trinitykearney.org](http://trinitykearney.org)) already has a goodly number of past sermons, as well as videos on the Catechism.

If you don't currently have an e-mail account but have access to a computer please consider setting up an account. If you have the ability to get on the Internet, visit our Facebook page, as those resources and announcements will regularly be posted there. If you need help to do this, give me a call. If you have an e-mail account and are not currently receiving notices from Trinity, call me at (816) 651-8047 so I can update your e-mail address. Also, let me know if you would like to have a hard copy of each week's sermon sent to you via regular mail.

Another need we must address is our congregation's finances. In spite of what is going on around us in the world, our congregation still has bills that must be paid in a

timely manner. This temporary shutdown may well impact our ability to do this unless we work together. So, here is what we are proposing:

- If you are already doing online banking you can instruct your bank to send your offering in to the congregation and they will mail us a physical check.
- If you have a “smart phone” or a tablet you can download the app “Give Plus,” which is available on both Google Play and the Apple Store.
- When you open the app you can set up an account linked to your bank.
- After setting up and opening the Give + app, search for the Kearney zip code (64060) where you will find our congregation listed. Select it.
- You may then designate how much and how often you wish to make your offering, or you may make a one time offering.

That’s all there is to it. This process is safe and secure, and there is no charge to you. If you don’t have access to any online services, you can mail your offering directly to the Church at P.O. Box 440, 1715 South Jefferson, Kearney, MO 64060.

As your pastor I am making myself available to you via phone, text, or e-mail ([gnuguy1946@gmail.com](mailto:gnuguy1946@gmail.com)), or, if need be, face to face. If you are short of supplies at home, not able to get out, and have no one to help you, please call me and we will get you what you need.

Let us pray: Merciful Lord, You have promised to be with us in good times and in bad, in sickness and in health, in times of plenty and in times of want. Hear us now for the sake of Your dear Son as we cry out to You for mercy and aid in this time of uncertainty and illness so that we may fearlessly face the future in the sure and certain hope of Your presence and power in our lives through Your Word as we await the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ on the Last Day. Hear us in the name of Him who dwells with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.” Amen.

Your Servants For Christ Sake,

Pastor Newman

Trinity’s Board of Elders: Larry Goodroad, Tim Brammeier, Allen Harris, Bill Moore, Vic Edwards & Dallas Hoffman, and Mark Fairhurst, Congregational President.