

March 13, 2020

Dear FPCP Friends and Family,

“Do not let your hearts be troubled. Trust in God, trust also in me.” (John 14:1)

These words found in John’s gospel are important words for us to cling to today. In the face of the Covid-19 pandemic, we hold fast to God and Jesus Christ as we face the sudden changes of our lives and world.

Our church staff and Session have been carefully monitoring all changes and health recommendations. **With the governor’s recommendation to cancel large group events and public gatherings in order to mitigate the spread and danger of the Coronavirus, we have made the difficult decision to suspend all in person FPCP worship services, meetings and church activities (including the opening of the FPCP Thrift Shop) effective immediately until Saturday, March 28.** By this time, we will as a church have time to re-evaluate the current health climate and will either return to FPCP’s normal meeting and worship schedule or will provide further recommendations.

In the meantime, we do not cease to be the church. **Abridged worship services will be available for your viewing beginning this coming Sunday morning, March 15th at 9:30 am. Each Sunday, a new abridged worship service will be posted and will remain on the website throughout the week. You can find these video links at www.fpcp.net.**

We will do our very best to keep you informed about any changes to the church schedule through our website, phone system, and by email. Church staff, Elders, and Deacons will also be calling church families during this time of social distancing to make sure every family in the church is all right. We have volunteers prepared to help bring items to individuals and families in need, even if only to leave at their doorstep. If you have a pastoral emergency during the next two weeks, please do not hesitate to reach out either by email at emilycampbell@fpcp.net or by phone at 734-262-6005. Our church building will be closed but our staff will be working from home.

I encourage you to live into the mission of the church. Please check in on the most vulnerable around you: family members, friends, neighbors. Share Christ with someone in need by the way you offer love and care. We may not be able to meet together but we can call, write, pray, and live into the hope of God which does not disappoint.

Finally, friends, I want to encourage you to please keep your focus on God in these trying times. Our fears grow as we watch the news, but our fears reduce as we keep our gaze on our Savior who carries us all in His outstretched arms. Jesus has said, *“Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you. Do not let your hearts be troubled and do not be afraid.”* (John 14:27)

My prayers are with you. Together, we pray for all who are sick and for all who care for the sick.

Wishing you the grace and peace of Christ today and always,

Emily Campbell