

Dear Church Family,

We find ourselves in challenging circumstances, navigating uncharted territory. Guidance from the Centers for Disease Control (CDC) and the United Church of Christ asks us to respond to coronavirus (COVID-19) by practicing social distancing, limiting our in-person interactions with other people. How do we continue to “be the church” when we cannot be together in traditional ways?

We are exploring the possibility of holding worship electronically, “livestreaming” or pre-recording our service, on March 22 and 29. We **will not** be worshipping in-person on those two Sundays and financial contributions may be mailed to the church office. Sermons will be available on the church website the day after the service (March 23 and 30).

Technology will play a significant role in how we go about conducting the business of the church. We will be using Zoom and similar platforms to hold meetings over the next two weeks. Small group gatherings will be postponed during this time for the health and safety of all members of our community.

Beginning Tuesday, March 17 and continuing through Sunday, March 29, we ask that you **do not** enter the church building to allow for professional deep cleaning to be done. The church office will be operating with limited hours to prevent the spread of disease and contamination. Both Loretta and I will continue to be available via cell phone and email, and will be checking messages left on the church office phone.

We wash our hands and say our prayers, because germs and Jesus are everywhere.

What else can we do? What positive responses can we take?

We can stay connected through other means and can support each other and our church family with phone calls, cards, letters, and electronic means. Our church directory lists the contact information for the majority of our members and friends. Please contact the church office if you need someone’s address or phone number.

Please follow guidance from the Chambersburg Hospital regarding [visitation to hospitalized persons](#).

One of the most important things we do as a faith community is pray. We pray for our church family. We pray for our community. We pray for our world. May God’s comfort and grace continue to guide and sustain us through these tumultuous times.

Peace,
Pastor Caroline