

Dear Atonement Family -

We have received direction from Bishop John Macholz to the effect that all worship services for the next three Sundays - March 15, 22, 29 - are to be cancelled out of concern for the spread of the COVID-19 virus.

**PLEASE READ THE ATTACHED LETTER FROM BISHOP MACHOLZ.**

I will be closely monitoring additional communications from the Synod Office and will keep you updated.

In this time of uncertainty and concern, please know:

- There will be no worship service/Sunday School/Confirmation Class/Adult Forum on these three upcoming Sundays.
- Additionally, there will be no Wednesday Lenten Soup Suppers and Worship.
- During the rest of this month, the church building will be open during regular office hours (Tues. Wed. Thurs. 9:00am - 2:30pm.) Our church staff and myself will continue with our work and responsibilities, taking precautions as needed to keep ourselves healthy.

**\*If you are need of pastoral care, do not hesitate to call the church office (585) 442-1018 or call me directly on my cell phone (614) 477-7863.**

I am available to talk with you, pray with you or visit with you.

- The work and business of our church continues, as do our ongoing expenses: heat, light, supplies, salaries. Prayerfully consider your faithful giving of gifts as you keep current with your offering.
- We are beginning a new ministry for members and friends of our congregation: "Grocery and Pharmacy Drop-Off". If you would prefer not to leave your home to shop for groceries or pharmacy items in the next few weeks, call the church office. A volunteer from our congregation will buy your groceries for you and drop them off at your home.  
*(If you would like to be a "volunteer shopper", please call the church office also.)*
- Stay safe...and take precautions with your health and well-being, and the health and well-being of those around you.
- Please look for a Midweek Message from me during each of the next three weeks, which will include a reflection, prayer and updated information. (Much shorter than a whole sermon!)

- Pray. For the health of the whole world, for the well-being of the church of God, and for all struggling with the effects of this pandemic.
- Most importantly: Take heart!

*God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble. Therefore, we will not fear, even though the earth be moved...*

*God is in the midst of the city; and it shall not be shaken...*

*Psalm 46*

God is with us. Be well -

Pastor Gail