

March 25, 2020

"For I am convinced that neither death nor life, neither angels nor demons, neither the present nor the future, nor any powers, neither height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God that is in Christ Jesus our Lord." Romans 8:35, 37-39

Dear Friend in Christ,

I never expected it. Nobody did, but here we are. We are living in the midst of a worldwide pandemic and life, as we know it, has changed. Our home, work, school, and social lives have all been shaken, and we don't yet know how long this will last.

As a church family, we have also felt the painful effects of this pandemic through cancelled events, limited personal interactions, and worship services which can't be hosted in our building. Many of you have been personally impacted through lay-offs, social distancing, and family disruption. What do we do and how do we respond in times like this? The only way we can as followers of Jesus – we respond faithfully!

We Faithfully Pray

God is not social distancing from us. He is right here with us, and we can know his presence through prayer. Keep praying for your neighbors, elected officials, our healthcare workers, and an end to this pandemic.

We Faithfully Serve

Jesus calls us to serve one another in love no matter the circumstances. Look for ways to serve those in our community who are most vulnerable – the poor, the homeless, the mentally ill. There may never be a better opportunity to pour out love, in the name of Jesus, than in this season.

We Faithfully Give

Our natural, human tendency when we are afraid is to cling to what we have and withhold what we should freely give. Jesus reminded his disciples not to worry about what they needed but to focus on his Kingdom first, and God would take care of what they needed. This is a time to give generously toward your community and toward your church.

Here is what I am asking you to do: send a message to Community of Grace. Tell us how we can be praying with and for you. Tell us how you are finding ways to serve

COMMUNITY
- of GRACE -

your neighbors in unique ways. Or, live generously by sending a special financial gift to help CGLC remain strong through this season of trial. Perhaps you can do all three! However the Holy Spirit leads you to respond, know that I am praying for you. By faith, we will all come through this storm stronger than ever before!

Finally, I want to update you on church activities. All onsite activities have been canceled through Sunday, May 3 in compliance with the state order to social distance. In addition, the shelter in place order has us closing the church office through Easter Sunday, April 12. Staff will still be working from home, so feel free to call when you need us at (651) 429-5349. We'll get back to you as soon as possible.

In Christ's Love,



Pastor Darrin

