

March 18, 2020

Dear Friends,

Occasionally, you get an *“I’ve never been through this before”* moment in your leadership and the current Coronavirus pandemic is certainly one of them.

After this past Sunday, I have come to the realization that we are now living in a new age of the digital church, and I believe it is here to stay. I was encouraged to find out that we had more than 2,000 people view our online worship this past Sunday.

So, what does all this mean to us? How has the Coronavirus, this global pandemic, forever changed our world? One church leader said, *“During this season, the Church needs to ask the questions, ‘What could – What would – and What should we do in situations like these?’”*

The elders and staff have been in prayer. We have attended webinars and zoom conferences and called various trusted resources. We believe we are called to be good citizens, and as much as we desire to be together, we must put the care for our church family and community first.

As we brace for the unknown and the impact the Coronavirus may have on our gatherings and programs, **here is what Jessamine Christian Church is doing:**

- **Sunday Worship Service** - we will be worshipping together online at 10:30 a.m. as long as our governor and state leadership recommend social distancing. Please know, this decision is not based on fear but on LOVE. We must do our part to avoid spreading the Coronavirus.
- **Current Church Activities** - all church activities and events have been canceled; some future events will be postponed, and we will update you as we know more.
- **Mid-Week Bible Studies** - we are considering ways to conduct our bible studies and other meetings by video conference calls.
- **Student & Children’s Ministries** - Drew and Kayla will be working creatively to connect with our students and children in ways that will support, lead, and teach. They will also provide on-line digital resources for our parents.

What’s Next and How Can You Help?

- First, join us in prayer. We have just begun our 25 Days of Prayer, which will lead up to Easter. Go to our website or JCC app and you can request a daily prayer guide. The power of prayer is essential in moments like this.

- Second, stay connected. We want to keep in contact with you so follow us on Facebook, download the app, and use our website to stay informed. Never hesitate to send the church an email or call the church if you have any questions or if we can do anything for you.
- Third, continue to faithfully support the Church. Your church family's mission and ministry continues.
 - Like most families, the church has a mortgage, utilities, and bills.
 - We have several benevolent agencies in our community we support, and we want to continue to be generous.
 - We have missionaries all over the world that we have made commitments to that we must honor.

The generosity of our church speaks directly to the faithfulness of our church.

There are three ways you can continue to be faithful in your generosity:

1. The best way is to give online. If this is new to you, simply download our app or go to our website and follow the directions given. If you need help setting it up, our Financial Director Johnny Davis would be glad to help you. Setting up a reoccurring on-line gift would be even better.
 2. You can mail your gift to the church.
 3. If you get out, you can drive by the church and drop it off at the office. Office hours are 8 a.m. - 5 p.m., closed from noon - 1 p.m. for lunch.
- Finally, serve. You never look more like Jesus than when you are being generous and serving. Look for ways to care for and serve your neighbors. Offer to run an errand, go to the store, take a dog for a walk, or help with childcare.

A.W. Tozer once said, "*A frightened world needs a fearless church!*" I am eager and excited to see how we the church can step forward in faith to love and serve our community. Now is the time to be the church. Fear Not!

I would be remiss if I didn't thank the many people working behind the scenes. The many people who are working to keep everything moving forward as creatively as possible. God's healing and mercy on us all.

Thank you in advance for all you have done and will do. Jonnie and I love you and keep our church family and community constantly in our prayers!



Pastor Lee