



March 18, 2020

Greetings Lettered Streets Covenant Family,

We are several days into a more severe season of physical isolation due to COVID-19 and I wanted to check in with you.

I know this season is impacting everyone, and yet it presents unique challenges for each person and/or family. While I believe this isolation and pandemic won't last forever, we should also face the reality that this may be our new normal for the foreseeable future. With that in mind, I want to encourage us to pause and pray for each other and our community. Here are some examples of people in different situations who could use prayer:

For our medical professionals who are working hard to care for people on the front lines while putting themselves (and potentially, their families) at greater risk. For our singles who likely feel even more isolated during this time. For our families without childcare, school, or built in structure. For all who continue working whether from home, or with modified work conditions. For all who are anxious over layoffs, loss of business, loss of income, loss of financial and vocational security. For those with compromised immune systems. For those who are shut in. For those who have loved ones shut in but are unable to visit. For the sick. Pray that the Lord bring others to mind as the case may be.

As I compose this update, I am also overcome with thanksgiving. The sun is shining and has been for days! The trees are beginning to blossom and the early spring flowers are showing off their 'better-dressed-than-Solomon' glory.

I've seen the church at its best as I hear stories of people checking in on each other, people lending hands to neighbors, or people worshipping together in homes. Rumor has it the Wilson family even serenaded some folks with worship music on Sunday (from the driveway at a safe distance, of course).

Lettered Streets Covenant Church

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It is easy to count up the hardships and negatives. Jesus people place our fears and cares on Jesus because he loves us. What can you be thankful for? How have you experienced surprising scenes of beauty, acts of grace, or examples of love, in the midst of this difficult season? Won't you take a moment and give thanks to Jesus, the giver of all good things?

I'll sign off with some simple updates for how we can continue to be the church for such a time as this.

What LSCC Leadership Is Doing

- The staff will continue produce worship resources for each Sunday including things like: a sermon podcast, a liturgy containing prayers, songs, readings, and children's activities. We will make this available by 10am on Sunday on our website. We'll also send the link via email.
- For our safety and for the good of our community we have, sadly, cancelled all group gatherings including: Small Group, Egg Hunt, Good Friday service and Easter Sunday service.
- Christy Wilson is working on ways to help our youth connect in the virtual world and is leading Bible studies for them later this week.
- Elizabeth continues to build ways for us to connect online.
- Jen Milsten is working on home resources for children.
- Morgan is helping us think creatively about ways we may serve the community and will act as a service volunteer coordinator should opportunities arise.
- The Lead Team continues their work of prayer, guidance, and operations of the organizational side of the church. They are also committed to reaching out to everyone in the church once a week via phone, text, email, or snail mail. No one walks alone!

Please take a moment to consider some ways we can be good neighbors to one another and to our surrounding community:

What You Can Do

- Stay home if you're not feeling well or have a compromised immune system. If you're tempted to ignore this mandate, just consider your siblings in Christ working triple shifts at hospitals, loosing business or work days, home sick in quarantine, or having to make impossibly difficult decisions—all because of the spread of Coronavirus. Don't be part of the problem!
- Stay in contact. If you're not feeling well and are isolated at home, the staff wants to know so we can best care for you!
- Watch out for each other. Check in with people.
- Resist xenophobic or racist innuendo, jokes, slights, or memes. COVID-19 can *infect* us all and therefore it *effects* us all. Let's not allow it to *affect* us negatively in our thoughts and actions toward others.
- Continue to give of your tithes and offerings as an act of worship and in support of the ministry of the church by mailing a check to P.O. Box 5645 Bellingham, WA 98227 or by giving online, [HERE](#).

[Archive of LSCC responses to COVID-19](#)

For More Information About COVID-19

- [CDC Website](#)
- [Whatcom County Health Department](#)