



March 11, 2020

Greetings Lettered Streets Covenant Family,

With new developments in the spread of COVID-19 I wanted to pause and give some updates to our response as a church.

As I said last week, there is much fear and anxiety surrounding the outbreak of COVID-19. As the church we are called to dwell in the tension of reality, facts, and experience while firmly rejecting hysteria, unnecessary fear, and reactionary responses.

While you and your family may not be (and hopefully won't be!) directly impacted by the virus, part of our gospel mandate is to love our neighbors as ourselves; in this case, that means our neighbors who are most vulnerable and susceptible to contracting and suffering greatly from COVID-19.

Our leadership is closely monitoring and considering advice from the Health Department and the CDC. As of today, we are not planning on cancelling our worship gathering this Sunday. However, we are making more changes to our community life together such as cancelling our Sunday dinners throughout March. Please stay tuned for updates as the week progresses.

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

- Wash your hands with soap and hot water for 20 seconds, regularly and every time you sneeze, use the washroom, blow your nose, before eating or preparing food.
- Cough into your elbow. If you have a persistent cough, stay home.
- Avoid handshakes, holy kisses (and unholy kisses....like, all the time), sharing utensils or cups, etc.

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- Stay home if you're not feeling well or have a compromised immune system.
- 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!
- Consider the same protocols for small group gatherings, church meetings, etc.
- Pray! For those on the front lines fighting this virus. For those who are caring for the sick. For the sick. For the vulnerable. For freedom from crippling anxiety, for wisdom, and for courage in Christ.

What LSCC Leadership Is Doing

- We are cancelling community dinners through the month of March and will re-evaluate near the end of the month.
- We'll have a modified greeting time. Share your favorite COVID-19 greeting.
- We will have an offering basket at the front of the sanctuary where people can give before or after the worship gathering. This will avoid 150 hands all touching the same basket handles.
- As always, you may also opt to give online [HERE](#).
- We are modifying Communion so that each person will receive a sealed cup/wafer. We will not have our elementary kids up for Communion/grapes on the third Sunday in March.
- We will provide hand sanitizer throughout the building for people to use, and use frequently.
- Our custodian and volunteers will wipe surfaces with disinfectant before and after the worship gathering.
- Our Children's Ministry team has released updated safety protocols and parents have been notified.
- Praying!

For More Information About COVID-19

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