



April 15, 2020

Greetings Lettered Streets Covenant Family!

I pray you are well as we enter the high season of Easter together. I so appreciate how our community came together to add elements to the worship resources during Holy Week. It makes such a difference to see each other's faces and hear each other's voices during this season of physical isolation. What a joy to be worshipping with my family in our living room and seeing so many of you!

It's unrealistic to think we could do something as labor intensive each week but there are things we can do that would be simple but powerful additions to our worship experience. Keep an eye out for correspondence from Morgan and me about ways you may be able to participate in the Sunday worship experience.

As we move forward together, we do so with eyes wide open. We don't know how long we'll need to shelter in place. We don't know how long our community worship gatherings will be suspended. We have to assume we are in this pattern for the long haul, and that means that we need to shift from a crisis mentality, to accepting this new normal for as long as it takes.

I am in regular contact with the Lead Team and Staff about how we can sustainably care for our congregation's acute needs while also learning new ways of encouraging and equipping us in, spiritual growth. Part of the way we are doing this is by continuing to curate weekly resources for home worship that are rooted and grounded in scripture, meaningful tradition, and in a contextualized package. We are not trying to *put on church* to be consumed. Rather, we are trying to equip each person, each household, to *be the church*.

Lettered Streets Covenant Church

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This Sunday we are going to re-engage with our sermon series in the book of Acts. My last sermon before Lent started was out of Acts 10.1-48 and it was titled, [*The Conversion of a Fisherman*](#). If you have some time, I encourage you to listen to it again because this week I'm going to preach the same text, Acts 10.1-48, but my sermon title is, *The Conversion of a Roman*. The two will build on each other so giving the former a listen, will help you as re-enter the story world of Acts 10.

Keep an eye out for children's resources and feel free to work through some of the resources we put out last week that maybe you didn't get a chance to experience whether it's the [Easter Service](#), the [Good Friday Service](#), or the [Devotional Walk at Zuanich Park](#).

Let's continue to pray for each other and for our community and community leaders who are in the impossible position of leading through a crisis unlike anyone currently living has dealt with.

In humility, appreciation, and resurrection hope,

Chris

What LSCC Leadership Is Doing

- The staff will continue to 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.
- Christy Wilson continues to build community with the youth, both through Zoom and through encouraging the kids to write cards to people. This small army of students have blessed so many already through their greetings in the mail.
- Elizabeth continues to build ways for us to connect online. Please contact her [HERE](#) if you would like to be added to the private facebook group.
- [Jen Milsten](#) continues to curate resources for children and families to continue to grow and worship at home.

- [Morgan](#) is helping us think creatively about ways we may serve the community and will act as a service volunteer coordinator should opportunities arise.
- [Morgan](#) is also coordinating care within our congregation. If you need help, or even someone to make a grocery store run, please contact Morgan.
- If you have prayer requests, please submit those [HERE](#).
- If you would like to set up a time to talk with pastor Chris, contact him directly [HERE](#).
- If you need financial help during this crisis please contact our Lead Team Chair, [Ryan Wasserman](#) or pastor [Chris](#).
- 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 on a regular basis 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

- Pray! We are seeing sick people recovering, anxious people finding deeper peace, and protection for our front line workers. Please continue to lift them, and each other, up in prayer!
- Stay home unless you are employed in essential services or must go out for supplies or well isolated outings for physical and mental health.
- [Stay in contact](#). If you're not feeling well (physically, emotionally, mentally) and are isolated at home, the staff wants to know so we can best care for you!
- Be sure to have bread or crackers and grape juice or wine on hand for Communion.
- Write cards to encourage the staff of the LH Mission, Food Bank, Hospital, WTA, or other frontline agencies. Thank your grocery clerk or take out delivery person.
- Watch out for each other. Check in with people. Write cards, make calls or send texts.

- Continue to give of your tithes and offerings as an act of worship and in support of the ministry of the church and the community by mailing a check to P.O. Box 5645 Bellingham, WA 98227 or by giving online, [HERE](#).
- Last week we invested \$750 in the Bellingham Food Bank. This week we are supporting some of our local school counselors by giving them resources to distribute directly to families in need. We delivered \$300 (\$1,500 total) in Fred Meyer gift cards to school counselors at Alderwood Elementary, Columbia Elementary, Irene Reither Elementary, Parkview Elementary, and Whatcom Center for Early Learning. These schools were chosen based on need, and personal relationships between the schools and our congregants. Thank you for your part in Jesus' work in the community.

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