

Cornerstone Family,

We are at a point in the Coronavirus epidemic that the CDC has recommended that we gather in groups no larger than 10 people for the next 8 weeks. Therefore, in line with what other churches are doing, we are planning on moving to virtual Sunday worship for the foreseeable future. While there will be further important information to follow soon, for now, the leadership of Cornerstone (including the deacons and Life-Together group leaders) wants you to be aware of the following:

1. Our **Sunday worship will be streamed live on the internet**, with only a very limited number of people physically at the church building. You will be able to access the live-stream from the church's website, [www.cornerstonepasco.org](http://www.cornerstonepasco.org), beginning at 10 AM this Sunday morning. The service itself will include most of the elements from our normal Sunday worship, including giving. We have a new system for **virtual giving** that is up and running, and can be accessed from the church website's home page. Please note that it will be particularly important that we continue our worship through tithes and offerings during this time since the church's bills will continue to be paid. If you need to drop these off at the church building, or mail the church a check, these options are open to you as well. If you know of church members who have no internet access, or who may need help accessing the live-feed, please let a church leader know so we can try to help them, or, alternatively, please help them by arranging to watch the worship stream together if possible.

2. **All other scheduled meetings of the church body have been canceled** until the CDC lifts their recommended restrictions on social gatherings. This includes Life Together group meetings, Wednesday Bible Study, Youth Group, and the Thursday men's Bible Study. We believe that following the CDC's recommendations is a way of protecting our most vulnerable members, and is therefore one of the ways that we show love for our neighbor.

3. The leadership of Cornerstone is working on ways that we can continue ministering to one-another even when we cannot gather as we normally do. Primary among these will be our **Life Together groups**. If you are part of an LT group, your group leader should be your first point of contact if you have any needs whatsoever. Your group leaders are working together with the elders and deacons to make sure that any physical needs are met in the safest way possible, and that any spiritual needs are met as well.

4. Cornerstone was scheduled to meet this Sunday night in a regular session of our **Members Meeting**, where we were to add several new members to our church's family. Most of these new members have been attending Cornerstone regularly for some time now, and all of them have gone through the church's normal membership process. Since each of these have completed all the steps required for membership, and since the elders were in full approval of their being added to the church body this coming Sunday, we have asked our Life Together leaders to poll their groups as to their desire to welcome these new additions into membership. Having received a positive response from our LT group members, we are taking the step of **adding these new members to the Cornerstone family**. Our newest members are:

- Pam Nagle
- Don and Paula Allen
- Karl and Rita Weitendorf
- Elaine Scanlon

We recognize that this is an unusual step, but these are indeed unusual times, and their addition to the church family is certainly in keeping with the spirit of our constitution and by-laws, and is within the bounds of Scripture. You should see these newest members added to the church directory very soon.

5. So that we can make sure that every member of Cornerstone is cared for during this time, we are assigning every leader (elders, deacons, and LT group leaders) a number of members to personally care for. If you are part of a LT group, your group leader will be your shepherd. If you are not yet part of a LT group, you have been assigned to an elder or a deacon for personal contact. Look to hear from your assigned leader sometime in the next week. And as always, as your pastor, I am always available to any of you who need me for any reason whatsoever.

6. We are exploring **other avenues of ministry**, both online and otherwise. Matt has already contacted all of the youth parents about his plans to continue discipling our youth. Watch the church's website and Facebook page for new discipleship opportunities.

The most important thing we can do during this unprecedented time is continue to trust the Lord. Our God is sovereign over all things, and *works all things according to the counsel of his will* (Eph. 1:11). This means that nothing whatsoever is out of his control. I am confident that we will emerge from this crisis stronger as a church, and as disciples of Christ. Please continue to love one-another, serve-one another, and pray for one-another during these days.

And never forget, the world is always watching us. This is an opportunity to demonstrate our faith in Christ.

Blessings in Christ,

Pastor Brian and the elders of Cornerstone