

## A Message to our Church family about the Coronavirus

Friday, March 13, 2020

Scripture reminds us repeatedly that in this world we will have troubles, but that God is right in the midst of it walking with us and guiding us. That is my prayer for us as we deal with the coronavirus flu. First and foremost, please pray!

The health and safety of our church family and all who utilize our church campuses is very important and a matter to be taken very seriously. In regards to Coronavirus also known as COVID-19, we want to share some of the actions Warsaw FUMC is taking in an attempt to help protect everyone as best as possible.

Our staff and members of our Servant Council have been closely monitoring guidance from the Center for Disease Control and Prevention and local health departments in our regions. We have been talking about ideas of how we may need to respond to this pandemic in the various areas of ministry and community events that we host.

To better protect everyone on our church campuses our cleaning service has assured us that they continue to not only wipe down, but also sanitize all that is touched frequently around both campuses in an effort to cut down on the spread of all viruses.

I'm sure you have seen these recommendations, but the following preventative measures can help reduce the spreading of germs and better protect your health:

- Wash your hands frequently
- Stay at least three feet away from someone coughing or sneezing
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose and mouth
- Cover your nose and mouth when you cough or sneeze
- If you have a fever, cough and difficulty breathing, seek medical care
- Stay home if you feel unwell

On the fore of many people's minds is our worship services. Effective beginning this Sunday, March 15, we will not be gathering in person for worship, but will worship online through our church's Facebook page and through WIOE FM radio "Oldies 101" on Sundays at 9am until further notice.

The public schools have decided to discontinue on campus learning effective Monday, March 16 through Spring Break April 12, so we will follow our protocol and automatically cancel all children's and youth activities as long as school is cancelled including the following: All on-campus Scouting events/meetings, Wednesday Holy COW and Youth as well as all planned children's and youth activities.

All other Sunday morning activities (children's church, adult, youth and children's Sunday school, coffee fellowship, etc) are cancelled until further notice. We will continue to minister to the community through a modified version of our weekly soup kitchen and closet without the large gathering. We will provide a carry out/sack lunch and prepared Closet sacks for people to pick up on Wednesday. Some of the details of the logistics of this will be worked out by our Closet/Kitchen Ministry Team.

We will also shut down all other on campus weekly activities and special activities until further notice **excluding our recovery groups** (AA and NA) which will continue to meet at their regular times with the understanding that they communicate risks with their constituents.

We will get important information out through our social media platforms of Facebook, Twitter and Instagram, through email, and through Sunday worship services. As always, our Church Business Manager, Ann Baker and Pastor Brian will be in the office during office hours and available to answer any questions and you can always contact Pastor Brian through his cell phone if an emergency arises (863) 257-0244.

I'll leave you with one of many great reminders from Scripture in trying times. May God bless you and keep you,

Pastor Brian

*God has not given us a spirit of fear, but of power and love and a sound mind.  
II Timothy 1:7*