

Dear Church Family,

As you are all aware a lot has been going on these last few weeks. We are tempted during this time to allow fear and worry to rule over our lives, but listen to what Scripture says, “For God has not given us a spirit of fear, but of power and of love and of a sound mind.” (2 Tim. 1:7, NKJV) Nothing is mightier than our God and the Spirit of God lives in each one of us who has accepted Jesus Christ as our Lord and Savior. We are His church, for His purpose and for His eternal glory!

That said, the Deacons and I have been seeking the Lord’s direction for how to love our community by proactively limiting the potential for exposure to the coronavirus. Our God has given us governing officials at the federal and state level who seek after the wellbeing and safety of us all. As a church, we must be cooperative and supportive of the recommendations given. The Bible speaks very clearly about the relationship between the believer and the government when it states, “Let every soul be subject to the governing authorities. For there is no authority except from God, and the authorities that exist are appointed by God.” (Rom. 13:1, NKJV)

Therefore, in a spirit of love for our neighbor and submission to our governing authorities, Hermann First Baptist Church will be taking the following actions:

1) Our Sunday morning worship service will (hopefully) be streamed online for the next 3 weeks (March 22<sup>nd</sup>, March 29<sup>th</sup>, and April 5<sup>th</sup>). I am encouraging all church members with internet access to gather together with their family at 10:45 AM and join us on Facebook Live. We are in the process of creating a new Facebook page for the church this week.

Our new Easter sermon series for the next 4 weeks will be, “The Christ.” Each Sunday will include a different theme about the redemption of mankind through our wonderful and magnificent Savior, Jesus Christ.

March 22<sup>nd</sup> – The Garden

March 29<sup>th</sup> – The Trial

April 5<sup>th</sup> – The Crucifixion

April 12<sup>th</sup> – The Resurrection

If for some reason our church service is not able to go live (technical difficulties), then we will post audio and/or possibly the video on our website: <https://hermannfbc.com/sermons/>.

2) All services, including Sunday Morning Worship, Team Kids, Youth, Wednesday Night Service, Small Group, Men’s Prayer Breakfast, Sunday School, Business Meetings and Committee Meetings will be canceled for the next three weeks (Wednesday, March 18<sup>th</sup> – Tuesday, April 7<sup>th</sup>). Our hope is to resume Wednesday evening ministries on Wednesday, April 8<sup>th</sup> as long as it will be deemed safe. We will reevaluate as things change.

3) Hermann FBC is looking at new ways to provide online Sunday School with live video and chat features. There will be more details on this to come in a separate e-mail.

4) Please remember that it is important that all members of Hermann FBC continue to be faithful in giving. There are two ways you can continue to financially support your local church:

1) Mail a check to: Hermann FBC, P.O. Box 353, Hermann, Mo, 65041

2) Deliver to the church office on Wednesdays or Thursdays (9 AM – 2:30 PM)

5) Please contact the church office if you or your family has a need at (573) 486-5554. We want to know if you need someone to go to the store for you. We want to know if you need an essential item like toilet paper. We have an awesome church that I know is ready to help one another.

6) Finally, continue to pray for one another daily! As God's Word states, "praying always with all prayer and supplication in the Spirit, being watchful to this end with all perseverance and supplication for all the saints." (Eph. 6:18, NKJV)

Thank you all for your patience, flexibility and gracious spirit during this time. We will move forward with wisdom and pray for the gospel to advance as the church continues to be salt and light in this world.

I love you all,

Pastor Matthew Wheeler