



"Be still, and know that I am God. I will be exalted among the nations, I will be exalted in the earth!" Psalm 46:10

March 17, 2020

Dear Fairfield Church Family,

Last Sunday our resident expert and elder, Dr. Larry Mapow did an excellent job of informing the congregation on the pandemic of the COVID-19 disease; there were no reported cases of the Coronavirus in Cumberland County at that time. On Monday, the Center for Disease Control (CDC) recommended that there should be a 50 person limit on group gatherings. A little later, advisors to the president recommended no meetings of more than 10. Dr. Mapow noted that it would be wise to suspend services as there will likely be COVID-19 cases reported in our county soon.

In light of this, the elders have agreed to suspend Sunday worship service and all other fellowship gatherings and studies for 3 weeks, beginning immediately through Palm Sunday, after which we will reevaluate the circumstances.

I have been in contact with our website administrator and he is preparing a YouTube Channel for Fairfield Church where abbreviated Sunday worship services will be posted in video format; they will be linked to our church website along with the accompanying calls to worship, confessions, and orders of worship posted for you to read along. These will be posted sometime on Friday and available for viewing at your convenience. Susie will send out the links via e-mail.

Here is a sensitive issue in this time of trial, the matter of giving. Giving of tithes and offerings is an essential part of our worship to the God who provides all that we have. You should plan to give, and if you give via checks, these may be sent through the U S Postal Service, attention to the treasurer. Some, especially those who give cash, may choose to set it aside and give when corporate worship services resume; this is OK too. Give praise to God, Fairfield Church is not in financial distress, or crisis. Now, if any of you come to a crisis because of a loss of income in light of this trial, please let us know. This is a time to show our care and concern for our neighbors. **Philippians 2:4**—*Let each of you look not only to his own interests, but also to the interests of others.* Let us know if you see others in distress and need.

Know that God is sovereign and in control: **Lamentations 3:37-40**—*Who has spoken and it came to pass, unless the Lord has commanded it?*³⁸ *Is it not from the mouth of the Most High that good and bad come?*³⁹ *Why should a living man complain, a man, about the punishment of his sins?*⁴⁰ *Let us test and examine our ways, and return to the LORD!*

With Great Hope and Love for You in Christ,

Pastor Mike