

March 18, 2020

Dear Church Family and Friends,

As you know, we are in the midst of uncertain times, or at least times that are uncertain to us. It is important to remember that, even in the midst of unease, God's arm has not lost its power, his sovereignty remains unchallenged. The COVID-19 pandemic has effectively ground much of our day to day activities to a halt. This, unfortunately includes gathering at the church for worship, fellowship and weekly Bible studies through the end of March.

The leadership team is working to ensure that spiritual needs will be met to the best of our ability. We are figuring out ways to offer worship services live or recorded that can be viewed on our website ([www.thechurchonnorthland.com](http://www.thechurchonnorthland.com)), Facebook (<https://www.facebook.com/thechurchonnorthland/>) or YouTube (<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCUEKpqHfO5XFUWF0ZwjKH9Q>) Please subscribe to the YouTube channel for uplifting videos. Keeping people connected through prayer chains and phone visits.

Our prayer, of course, is that this will be a very short break, and we will communicate regularly about plans. But we honestly don't know yet how long this will last. We recognize how difficult it is to give up our usual way of connecting, and know that not everyone sees an immediate need for this. Please remember that even though you may not be personally concerned about the virus many in our congregation are in high risk categories, we love them enough to not want to make them more vulnerable to illness and suffering.

Although the building will be closed to all activities, we will continue to work to keep our church moving forward. Ministry continues to happen – just in a different way. We are still supporting our staff and ministries, we are connecting with people through these difficult times, and the love of Jesus continues to be proclaimed and modeled. The office will be open; however, we ask that should you need anything to please call or email. We therefore continue to need your prayers and your support. Understanding that there may be financial hardship through this ordeal, if you are able, please keep the church in mind with respect to your tithes and offerings. You can give by mailing your offerings to the church or you can go directly through your bank's online bill-payer. Please remember to pray daily for the church, for one another, and for the world at large.

And remember to stay connected to one another. Call each other, video chat, etc. Social distancing does not mean emotional distancing. God gave us community because we need it, we need it now as much as we ever did. So let's keep lifting each other up. Let's keep trusting in the God who is holy and powerful and let's keep living together in a spirit of Christian love.

*But now, this is what the LORD says— he who created you, Jacob, he who formed you, Israel:*

*“Do not fear, for I have redeemed you; I have summoned you by name; you are mine. When you pass through the waters, I will be with you; and when you pass through the rivers, they will not sweep over you. When you walk through the fire, you will not be burned; the flames will not set you ablaze. For I am the LORD your God, the Holy One of Israel, your Savior; Since you are precious and honored in my sight, and because I love you, I will give people in exchange for you, nations in exchange for your life. Do not be afraid, for I am with you.*

God bless you friends, and may our time apart be short!

