

CCBC Family,

By now I'm sure most all of us have seen the drastic measures being taken to prevent the spread of COVID-19 (novel coronavirus), not only throughout the world, but even in our own community. With school and restaurant closures, travel bans, and crowded stores it is an unsettling time for many.

Since news regarding the coronavirus continues to change, seemingly from moment to moment, we encourage you to keep up to date on the latest information and advice from public health professionals. You are encouraged to follow the latest from sources like the Center for Disease Control, the World Health Organization, the State of Michigan's Department of Health and Human Services.

What does this mean for Crossroads Community Baptist Church?

The leadership here at CCBC is concerned for the health and safety of not only those within our church community, but also for those in the communities around us. We all are making individual decisions on how we will respond in this time of crisis, but then there is the weighty responsibility of making decisions for an entire community of faith. We will continue to seek God's will throughout this period. I also ask that you continue to lift up church leadership in prayer and may we all continue to extend grace and love to one another at this time.

Last night, several of our leaders gathered together to talk about what our response as a church should be in the coming days. This note is to convey some decisions that were made and also to highlight what ways ministry might continue in coming days and weeks.

Cancellation of All Worship Services and Other Activities at Our Physical Location Through April 5.

All activities, including worship services, held at CCBC will be cancelled for the next three weeks. On April 6, our church leadership will reconvene and reassess the situation at that time.

Continuing Ministry Within our Church Body

1. Unless government regulations or public health recommendations prohibit it, **the church office will remain open at this time.** If there is a need that

anyone in our church family might have, we encourage you to reach out to us here at the office and let us know.

2. **The different language congregations will have the option of either live-streaming or recording a service here at the church**, if they so desire. These can be streamed or posted on various social media platforms for our congregation. We are still working on details, but will notify you later in the week as to which option we choose and how you can find it. If you need assistance in getting things setup so that you can watch online, please let us know in the office and we will try to help.
3. This unique time provides us with an opportunity to do what we have been talking about in recent months in regards to being a missional community. I encourage our entire congregation to take time to reach out and minister to one another. Call and check in on one another. Take time to pray on the phone and assess any needs that anyone might have.

Several leaders in our church have stepped forward to take it upon themselves to call and check in on those who attend our church on a weekly basis. If you would like to help in this effort, please let us know in the church office. The purpose of this is to facilitate communication and unity in this period of social distancing.

4. Our hope here in the office is to send out **regular correspondence through email and various social media platforms to communicate regular prayer requests to the church body, as well as needs that our congregation might have.** If there is a need that is posted (for instance, helping someone in need of getting food from the store), please contact the church office if you can help meet some of those needs.
5. **We are also planning on sending out regular devotions, articles, and tips** on how you can not only endure through this season, but also continue to grow in your faith.
6. If any of our **Sunday School classes** would be interested in still getting together on a weekly basis from their homes utilizing some sort of video conferencing, we encourage any teacher or leader to contact the office. Depending on resources available we can try to help you and your class members connect to one another from your own homes.

7. **In this season we also encourage our members to continue to give their tithes and offerings.** One way that you can give is online through our church website: crossroadsa2.org/eoffering. Follow the instructions on how to set-up online giving to CCBC there. If you want to give in person, please stop by the office during normal office hours. If you want to give via check, please send your tithes and offerings to:

Crossroads Community Baptist Church
2580 Packard St.
Ann Arbor, MI 48108

Pressing On

These are scary times for many. But this is an opportunity for us as a church to proclaim and display the gospel to those living in darkness. We are to be the light that calls others out of the darkness to our beautiful Savior, Jesus Christ. Continue to pray for the lives of so many being affected as a result of both the virus and the global response to the pandemic. May we draw closer to one another and to our trustworthy God at this time.

Therefore I tell you, do not be anxious about your life, what you will eat or what you will drink, nor about your body, what you will put on. Is not life more than food, and the body more than clothing? ²⁶ Look at the birds of the air: they neither sow nor reap nor gather into barns, and yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not of more value than they? ²⁷ And which of you by being anxious can add a single hour to his span of life? (Matthew 6:25-27).

Love,

Your Pastor