

March 14, 2020

Dear Beloved Sisters and Brothers of Evangel,

The providence of God sometimes leads us on difficult paths. These paths are not out of His sovereign control nor beyond His mercy and grace. In light of the Coronavirus, I am writing to encourage our congregation to trust In God's good care and to be neither overly afraid or unwise in how we respond to the health problem facing us. "God is our refuge and strength; a very present help in time of trouble." Psalm 46:1

First, let me ask you to pray that our Lord would spare our city and our nation the serious and debilitating effects of this virus. Pray for the restored health of those effected and the safety of those who so diligently treat them. Pray for families who have a loved one who is fighting this illness and comfort for those who have lost loved ones. Pray for protection for our church family, especially those whose health or age may make them more susceptible.

Secondly, through much deliberation and prayer, the Session has determined for the safety of the congregation to worship together via the internet link on the church website. (<http://evangelchurchpca.sermon.net/main/main/20965409>) Until this health crisis passes, we will not be worshipping on site at the church. We encourage you to worship with us each Sunday at 10:15 via the live streaming link for the worship service. Please set this time aside each Sunday to worship our glorious Savior and receive His Word. This will be an opportunity for prayer, family worship, singing in your home and study of the Word.

Our prayer and hope is that we are responding in a Biblical manner to this almost unprecedented situation in our country. Desiring the safety of all our people from children to the aged, we believe that not meeting together for a short period of weeks may prevent the possible serious illness or loss of life to a member or visitor. The Session will reevaluate our position on Wednesday night, April 1. Our hope is that these temporary measures will end soon.

Thirdly, this cessation of ministry will include all face to face activities of the congregation including Sunday School, nursery, Children's Church, Choir, Orchestra, Wednesday night children, youth and adult ministries, all small groups and home groups. The nature of small group interaction makes transmission readily possible.

Fourthly, please continue to minister to one another by phone, text and social media. It is such an encouragement to know that our brothers and sisters in Christ are lifting us up before God's throne of grace. So please keep in touch with one another, consider those in your Sunday School classes, your small groups, home groups and those who regularly sit near you in worship.

Fifthly, please remember to worship through your giving. This may be a financially challenging time for our church. We function as a church basically from month to month. By faith, we look to Him and continue to trust His provision. He has been so very faithful to Evangel through the years. We look to His faithfulness now. You may give by mail at Evangel Church P.C.A. 423 Thompson Road, Alabaster, AL 35007 or on our website through online giving.

Please go to the website for further information. We will be monitoring our situation closely. We hope this will be very temporary. By God's grace, it will be a time we look back on and remember the kindness of our Lord. We will place on the website any changes that may be needed.

May our Sovereign Lord bless you and keep you and cause His face to shine upon you and give you peace.

In His service for His glory,

Jeff

Jeff Lowman, Senior pastor
on behalf of the Session of Evangel Church, P.C.A.

"Do not fear for I am with you,
Do not anxiously look about, for I am your God.
I will strengthen you, surely I will help you.
Surely I will uphold you with my righteous right hand. . . Isaiah 41:10

"For as many are the promises of God, in Him they are yes; therefore also through *Christ* is our Amen to the glory of God through us." 2 Corinthians 1:20