

March 14, 2020

Romans 8:35, 37-39

³⁵ *Who will separate us from the love of Christ? Will hardship, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or peril, or sword?*

³⁷ *No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us.* ³⁸ *For I am convinced that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor rulers, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers,* ³⁹ *nor height, nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.*

Dear LPC Family,

Last night the session met to discuss the best ways for LPC to continue gathering in gratitude and serving God in faith during this uncertain time. Jesus speaks so often about seeing and touching each other, which caused us to wrestle with how to do “church” by literally separating ourselves from each other. Ultimately we found solitude in the trust we have that the love of God will continue to connect us to God, each other and our community.

In order to live into our love of God and each other we are encouraging all of our members and friends to take every precaution to care for themselves and one another. Therefore, LPC instituted the following plan:

- **LPC Campus:** All regular LPC on-site meetings and events are cancelled until April 1. This includes both LPC related activities and outside groups.
- **Worship in Person:** Starting tomorrow, Sunday, March 15, all live worship services will be cancelled until the end of March.
- **Worship Online:** Starting this Sunday, March 15, we will have a video recorded sermon to be viewed online. Our plan is to provide an online and interactive service by March 22. Directions will come on how this will work.
- **Bible Study:** We will have an online and interactive Bible Study midweek.
- **Shepherd Groups:** The session reinstated Shepherd Groups last night. This will ensure that all church members will have contact and be informed on church related activities. Each session member will reach out to their groups over the next couple of days. If any needs arise please do not hesitate to call your shepherd group leader, any member on session, (see below), my cell phone (828.242.1718) or the church office (910.893.3545).
- **Care:** Please continue to care for each other. Over the next few weeks this may look different than we are accustomed. Please call each other on the phone, send text and check on one another. Please remember those that do not have local family members and/or live alone.
- **Outreach:** The session is staying in contact with our local outreach partners including SAFE, Community Action, TAP, Star Academy and Harnett Food Pantry. We made a decision last night to focus most of our outreach efforts with Harnett Food Pantry. Since many of their volunteers fall within those “most vulnerable” to the Coronavirus, we will seek volunteer help at Harnett Food Pantry. Please see Jim Cruickshank (573.220.6696) or Carolyn Cox (910.591.9963) to volunteer.

- Offering: Online giving will be available by Friday, March 20, 2020.
- Church Office: The church office will be open M-F from 9:00 am – 1:00 pm with limited use. Please use discretion when using the church office.

In all of this, we continue to trust God to guide us and to keep showing up in our lives, even as the impact of this virus changes our usual rhythms. God is with you. God is with us. Nothing can separate from this love. I remain available as ever to meet with you and lift alongside you the prayers that are on your heart. Again my cell phone number is 828.242.118.

Take good care of yourselves and good care of others.

Grace and Peace,
Barrett

Session Members:

Ann Collins	919.210.0917
Bill Day	724.986.6922
Brenda Paschal	919.630.2697
Eddie Tobler	336.817.6605
Janice Taylor	910.890.0989
Jim Cruickshank	573.220.6696
Laura Beth Oliver	910.890.7466
Logan Griffith	910.578.1331
Marie Salmon	910.489.2267
Paul Hart	910.814.7631
Tom Scheunemann	910.850.1178
Townsend Quinn	910.890.1714