

Dear Friends,

One week ago, we didn't really know how quickly life would change for our church. This morning in consultation with leaders and reviewing responses to the COVID-19 pandemic from neighboring churches, we decided to cancel church this Sunday and make decisions about future worship and church activities week-to-week. Basically, these realities informed our decision:

The disease is spreading in our community rapidly and the worse is yet to come.

There is no cure or vaccine so communities can only mitigate its spread.

Transmission is by contact and by droplets from breathing, coughing, sneezing.

The community most in danger is those over 60 years old.

If the disease spread spikes too fast it can quickly overwhelm medical facilities.

Suggested 3-6 foot community spacing is not possible in our small facility.

Symptoms do not show in infected people for 2-7 days, yet they can infect others.

We have a responsibility to do our part in our communities to protect to our members, their families and all others in our social networks. We also are not ready to sanitize our church before and after events. Your leaders and I will work on this so that we can worship again as soon as it is responsible.

Sunday, our Bishop Gohl is providing an online Service of Word and Prayer on the DE-MD Synod Facebook page at 10:00 AM.

Stay safe and keep us all in your prayers. Pray that soon this too shall pass by God's grace. Finally give a special prayer for our first responders, doctors, nurses, medical staff, and researchers who are on the front line for all people.

Yours in Christ, Pastor Greg 302-563-5150