

March 30, 2020

RE: update on church office and food pantry drive through

Good afternoon,

We hope this email finds you all well. We as a staff are continuing to process the governor's declaration to shelter in place until June 10. We are saddened by this news but also want to do our part to help take care of our community. As such, our office hours will continue to be limited as we are not trying to remain in close contact with one another day in and day out. We will have a presence in the church building, but please call if you intend to come by.

The governor's statement does allow us to visit our places of worship, though the enforcement of the 10 person limit is in effect. Therefore, we are continuing to plan to have worship available online each Sunday morning. We continue to work out the details on our end so these worship experiences will be available for you. We are also working out the details for the Easter Sunrise Drive-In service. Please be patient as we tie all the loose ends. Specifically, pray that the Lord will help us complete all the necessary steps.

We do want to announce a new initiative for this weekend at HBC. With more and more families being affected by the corona virus including the loss of paychecks, families are beginning to decide which bills to pay and whether or not to buy groceries. These families' needs will continue to rise in the coming weeks. In order to help address these needs as they unfold, we want to launch a food drive at HBC. On Sunday, between 1-3 pm, Eli and I will be at the back parking lot where you're invited to drop off non-perishable food items. Eli and I will take the food items, have a prayer with you, and send you on your way. You'll be able to come to church on Sunday! Your donation of food will be a blessed offering that we'll pass out to those in need around us. We imagine helping our closest neighbors with some basic needs as they experience these difficult times. Also, you may be aware of a neighbor or a friend who would benefit from some of these food stores. If so, please share with us, so we can get the food to those who are most vulnerable. Your sharing will allow us to continue to be a blessing to our neighbors and our city. It will take all of us working together to make this pandemic more bearable. Christ will guide us through this and sharing food allows us to live out the mission of this moment. Other moments will call for other investments. Can you help us stock an emergency food pantry?

While you're at the church to drop off your food, share what we can pray about, and we'll be happy to pray with you. We'll also have a basket where you can deposit your church tithe and offering.

If you're wondering what you can share, think of anything non-perishable: crackers, soups, rice, beans, pop-top containers, etc.

Thank you for responding to the needs around us and may God give us this day our daily bread,

Pastor Matt