



First Presbyterian
CHURCH OF SAN ANTONIO

LOVING CHRIST. LOVING ONE ANOTHER. LOVING THE CITY.

Friday, March 12, 2020

Update for the Congregation

Dear FPC Family,

Just like all of you, the leadership of the church is following the developments in the COVID-19 situation very carefully. Over the last 24 hours the situation has evolved to the point that I felt that you needed to hear from me about our discussions and our need for your participation. As we have seen, the city is making a proportionate response by moving incrementally as the situation develops. I believe that this is also the wisest tactic for us. Rather than make long-term or sweeping decisions, we will move forward with patience, courage and intelligence.

We are recommending the following:

- **In lieu of our regular Sunday morning schedule, we will offer a simplified Sunday Service to be recorded and streamed digitally on Sunday, March 15 at 11:00 AM on our website, www.fpcsanantonio.org. The facility will not be open to the public on Sunday, March 15.**
- **We will suspend all church activities for the week of March 16-20 (including evening activities).**
- **As per the center's policy, the Children's Center will continue to follow the leadership of SAISD.**

The leadership of the Church (Session, Deacons and Staff) continue to monitor events closely. Please see the FPC website and App for continuing updates.

The question before us is how to love Jesus Christ, love one another and love the city in this crisis. As a congregation, we want to be both good citizens and good neighbors, respecting the civil authorities under whom we live. Our response to this situation needs to be both compassionate and courageous. As we think about the health of our own church family, we must also think about the positive leadership we may offer to the city. We are prepared to continue to take appropriate measures as necessary, but would encourage everyone to pray for those affected, as well as exercise good habits such as washing your hands often, avoid touching your face, cover your cough with your arm or a tissue, and stay home when you are suffering from any type of contagious illness.

We also remember that soon this crisis will become personal for people we know and love. We must be sensitive to the fears that many will experience while also encouraging people to trust in the Sovereignty of our Lord Jesus Christ.

As the Lord said to Isaiah:

Fear not, for I am with you;

be not dismayed, for I am your God;

I will strengthen you, I will help you,

I will uphold you with my righteous right hand. (Is 41:10).

Grace and Peace,

Bob Fuller

Senior Pastor