

Dear Sisters and Brothers in Christ.

Late Friday afternoon I received notice from Bishop David Bard that all activities at United Methodist Churches in Michigan are to be suspended until April 1. This includes worship services, bible studies, meals, meetings and outside groups. So as of today, March 16, 2020, we will be canceling all activities at Lawrence UMC.

That being said, I want to make it clear that just because we can't meet in large groups, we can still be the church in our community. Beverly and I will still be available at the church office. Although limited to emergency visitations, I will be maintaining contact with everyone in the congregation through phone calls. If someone is sick it is vitally important that you let us know as soon as possible so that we all can be in prayer for each other. We will continue to provide food to our community through our pantry but will suspend the brunch until April.

This week I will be exploring various options to make devotions/sermons available via Facebook, YouTube, and on our website. This may take me a few days to set up, but within a week, we should have some form of virtual worship/bible study available.

Also, please remember that even though we will not be meeting, your financial support is still needed. Please continue to support Lawrence UMC by submitting your contributions by mail. We will also be setting up online giving options this week. Details will be sent to everyone once the system is in place.

I understand that not every member of our congregation has access to email and online services. Therefore, it is imperative that we maintain communication with those outside the electronic circle. Please encourage, support, build up each other in the faith by making a phone call each day to one member of our congregation. Especially to those who may be alone and not connected electronically.

***“Be of good courage, and let us be courageous for our people, and for the cities of our God, and may the Lord do what seems good to him.” 2 Samuel 10:12-14***

Yours with love in Christ Jesus

Pastor Wayne