

People of St. Thomas:

As of today, in-person worship services, Sunday School classes, committee meetings, and other group meetings of any size (both church groups and outside groups) are suspended. Church council voted unanimously at our meeting yesterday to suspend all activities through the end of March. We will continue to consider the best advice of the CDC, ELCA officials, and city and state officials, and we will keep you updated.

Staff will be working either in the office or from home, as their duties require. Building doors will be locked for their safety. You can continue to call the office to speak to a staff member or leave a message. For contributions to MCUM or New Hope, please contact Amy Balcam at the church office and we'll pick up your donations.

Please consider joining Facebook if you aren't already using it and liking the St. Thomas Facebook page. We will be posting regular updates on our website, on Facebook, and via email; we are working to livestream worship beginning this coming Sunday on Facebook. This Wednesday's Lenten meditation will be recorded and will be made available as soon as possible.

If you are not already doing so, please consider making your regular pledges on our website (look for the Give button) or via Tithely. Our financial obligations will not cease and neither should our giving.

Council and staff are working on other ways we can continue to gather together in community, even if that community will be a virtual one for some weeks to come. We're also talking about ways to reach out to members who are most at risk during this pandemic, as well as those in need in our city. Our mission to be God's hands in the world has not changed. As Pastor Darby recently reminded us, we know who we are because we know whose we are.

Dawn Bakken, council president
17 March 2020