



Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

By now most of you are aware Covid-19 has been declared as a pandemic disease. We are also aware of this due to the cancellation of large scale events and yes some churches are deciding to be proactive and cancel events and services.

Following information was shared regarding COVID-19. If you want more information on Covid-19 please go to www.coronavirus.gov. This is the CDC website and select the CDC's framework for mitigation pdf.

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/downloads/community-mitigation-strategy.pdf>. Methodist hospital disease experts consider the current status of the greater Houston area as being a minimal to moderate (based on number of reported cases in the area).

What will Spring Woods do?

If you are running a fever, stuffy or runny nose, mild sore throat, headache, vomiting, diarrhea, chills, feelings of fatigue, general discomforts, weakness or muscle aches, congested coughs croupy cough, a suppressed immune system or any concerns about your health, **please stay home**.

- 1) **Grow groups, UMW, Emmaus Reunion, UMM, My Beloved Small Group, Wednesday Night "Rooted", Men's Bible Studies, and Adult Sunday School classes** are hereby suspended until further notice. I'm asking leaders to stay prepared and resume with meetings where they left off once we resume regular operations. I have included the adult Sunday school classes because of the recommendation that we practice "social distancing" of at least a 6 ft. spacing between one another. I would encourage all groups to be in prayer during this time, and although you are not meeting, set up a system whereby your thoughts are emailed within your group or hold conference calls /facetime chats with members of the group.
- 2) **Gourmet club** will still hold its monthly gathering. Decision rests with each member.
- 3) **Monday Munchers** decision will be made later in the month.
- 4) **Financial Literacy Workshop** currently scheduled for April 4 will be reschedule to April 25.
- 5) **VCI** prescription teams will meet as scheduled (Sat., March 21 and as needed).
- 6) **Executive Committee, Trustees, SPRC, and Finance committees** will meet as scheduled and as needed.
- 7) **Trailer Grace** activities are suspended until further notice.
- 8) **Micha's Closet** will suspend distribution of daypacks directly. All daypacks on hand will be taken to Hope Center for distribution. Receptionist should direct individuals to Hope center. We will not allow people into the entry. We will need to ensure we have wipes available for the door handle to be wiped down several times throughout the day. Recognizing we also provide canned food goods, we can only imagine how that might increase. With a possible

increase in need, we will suspend assistance to the general community until further notice. Assistance will be primarily for members only at this time.

- 9) **Congregational Care** home visitations are suspended in consideration of health of both church member and congregational care member. Our congregational care team will make phone calls to the sick and shut in.
- 10) **Hospital visits** will continue to be serviced by the pastor on receipt of notification of member hospitalization.
- 11) **Communion** will be addressed closer to the first Sunday.
- 12) **Spring Woods Christian Academy** will be open as usual. Mrs. Barajas as academy director will make decisions as to opening or suspending classes in consultation with the academy board.
- 13) **Sunday Worship** will continue as normal. The recommendation for consideration to cancel is based on church size worshipping at least 200+ per service. Effective immediately, no handshakes or hugs until further notice. We will implement "social spacing" during service. The choir will not be singing from the loft. They will be invited to sit with family in the congregation using "social spacing." Within our Mosaic (Contemporary) service, the praise band have available space to practice "social spacing and we will ask David Teague to space the chairs out more. We will have hand sanitizer for those who wish to use before and after service. The coffee bar will be open for coffee but no donuts/snacks. Kid's Time @10:15 is suspended due to adult Sunday school classes being suspended. J.A.M. (Jesus and Me @11:15) and Youth Sunday School @10:15 will meet. Nursery care will be suspended for the next two Sundays and re-evaluated within the next two weeks. If you worship on line, please text "here9" or "here" to 281-767-8282 in order to count you in our virtual worship service. Live worship feed can be found at: <https://www.facebook.com/springwoodsumc/videos>
- 14) If you are ill, if you are 65+ please use your judgement about attending worship. As your Pastor, I want you to make the best decision for you. If you have a weakened immune system, please stay home, check us out on the Spring Woods Facebook page during our live feed. Post something so we know you are with us.
- 15) We are in one of the holiest times of the Christian calendar and will make a decision on Easter week activities within the next week. Estimates for this duration range anywhere from 4-6 weeks based on the current quarantine predictions from when we might start to see a regress in cases.
- 16) Lastly, please continue to support your church through your tithes, gifts and offerings. You are able to give electronically through our website: <https://www.springwoodsumc.org/donate/> or mail in your donations at 1711 Cypress Creek Pwky, Houston, Texas 77090.

Grace and Peace



Pastor Steffon

Love God

1711 Cypress Creek Pkwy
Houston, Texas 77090

Love Others

281-444-6468
www.springwoodsumc.org

Make a Difference

PO Box 73564
Houston, Texas 77273
