

Dear Hopewell Family,

In response to guidance offered through the Virginia Department of Health and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, we are instituting the following policies for the next 30 days or until such time as we are advised that enhanced risks have passed:

We will monitor other recommendations for Community Faith-based Organizations and respond as is appropriate with regard to the scheduling of events/meetings.

Sunday PM activities, Monday and Thursday evening Bible studies, and Wednesday evening prayer/Bible study are all suspended throughout March. The Wednesday dinner scheduled for March 25 is cancelled.

Sunday AM will be decided, as long as we are allowed to decide, on a weekly basis. Friday we will announce if we will be meeting at the church for all who wish to and are healthy.

We will refrain from shaking hands and hugging as a means of greeting.

There is a sanitizer station in the sanctuary near each door and worshipers are encouraged to use that as they pass.

We will minimize the touching of hard surfaces that might be unwittingly affected (i.e. offering plates).

If possible, worshipers are encouraged to use the online giving option available through the church website www.hbcnk.org

Communion will be suspended through April and reviewed as we approach May.

We will add a Facebook Live stream on Sunday mornings as well as YouTube uploads weekly as long as we can meet on Sundays.

If we arrive at a situation where we can no longer safely meet together, we will then post new sermons weekly on Sunday morning at 8AM on YouTube.

We will be adding daily verses or words of encouragement via social media (Facebook, Instagram). If you need help navigating social media, please call and we would be happy to help you with it.

Let us make it through March, and pray that April will bring clarity and healing as we gear up for Palm Sunday, Good Friday and Resurrection Sunday. If needed, we will move our celebration of the Resurrection to a different date if April 12 is still under advisement not to gather.

If anyone needs anything, please contact either your deacon, my Care Assistant, John Williamson, or me for help. We will aide you in whatever way possible (we may even have a contact with extra toilet paper).

Finally, there will be some service opportunities for anyone willing and able to help. Many in our community are struggling and we have the opportunity to be the hands and feet of Jesus at this time.

While the current situation world-wide is concerning, we are still at a point where reasonable vigilance and action can help to prevent the communication of this illness, especially to those who are vulnerable. Please know that our actions and response will be well-considered and will keep the well-being of our congregation and community in mind.

Above all be in prayer for our leaders, our medical personnel, our sick and those vulnerable among us.

You are loved!

Pastor Jeremy Smith
Hopewell Baptist Church

Psalm 103

1 Bless the LORD, O my soul: and all that is within me, *bless* his holy name.

2 Bless the LORD, O my soul, and forget not all his benefits:

3 Who forgiveth all thine iniquities; who healeth all thy diseases;

4 Who redeemeth thy life from destruction; who crowneth thee with lovingkindness and tender mercies;

5 Who satisfieth thy mouth with good *things*; so *that* thy youth is renewed like the eagle's.

6 The LORD executeth righteousness and judgment for all that are oppressed.