

3/22/20

West Valley Church Family,

After this week's worship was recorded, our local hospital authorities are strongly urging Yakima's citizens to shelter-in-place for the next two weeks. As a result, we feel it is best to close our church office and cancel any remaining small groups, at least for the next two weeks. At this point, we hope to have a pre-recorded worship experience for our church family for Easter Sunday, but the next two weeks will be only pre-recorded messages from our home. At each new turn, we grieve the further loss of connection that we have with one another, which means we all must be more diligent in reaching out to each other in every other way possible; via text, email, messages, phone, FaceTime, etc. Please - do not forget one another! Please also, tell us if you are aware of someone in our church family, or someone without a church family, who is needing assistance in any way. We have many people in our church who have volunteered to help if needed.

So please:

- **Shelter in place, limiting all travel to only what is essential**
- **Contact the church and leave messages (phone, email), if you or someone you know needs help.**
- **Only conduct small groups through digital means (group FaceTime, group emails, etc)**
- **Reach out to your neighbors, especially those who are vulnerable, if you can help them.**
- **Please, continue to give to your church if you are able by mailing in your giving or using electronic means via our webpage or church app.**

Regarding the Here for Good campaign:

The current Covid-19 responses were no surprise to God; He knew this was coming. And yet, He led our church to plan **Here for Good** for this time. This effort is not a work of men and women; it is a work of God, evidenced by the continual amazing response of the people of this church. God knew what would happen at this time and he knows what will happen in the future, both in our society and our economy. We believe that this current crisis does not change our three-year campaign plans. We believe that this merely gives God an even more incredible opportunity for Him to prove Himself, and receive greater glory when the three year campaign is completed. In the meantime:

- We have added one extra week for submitting commitment cards, making the date April 5th.
- We will announce the total of commitments on the Easter Sunday video that will be sent out. You will be excited to hear how God is moving among us, even in this time!
- Giving toward commitments can begin at anytime, but we encourage giving a significant "first time" gift on Easter Sunday.

West Valley Church, let's continue to trust God in this time, let's intentionally stay connected to and caring for one another, and let's look forward to our first day back together in worship soon. It will be a glorious day!

Pastor Michael