



GRACE EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

100 E. Schrock Road, Westerville, Ohio 43081 / 614-882-3026 / www.grace43081.org

March 17, 2020

Dear Family of Grace,

After evaluating our current situation, all services and activities at Grace will be cancelled through Saturday, April 4th. During this time, access to the church will be restricted so please contact the church office ahead of any visit.

The Rev. Dr. Dan Selbo, Bishop of The North American Lutheran Church, has the following message for our congregation (you can read Bishop Selbo's full letter at <https://thenalc.org/projects/pastoral-letter-on-coronavirus-disease-2019-covid-19/>)

"The concerns regarding the coronavirus are real. Real lives are being touched, and real lives are being lost, and real people for whom our Lord died are being affected by this pandemic. As bishop, I would encourage you to use your own wisdom in determining what would be best and most well-received in your own setting and by your own people. Talk with the pastors in your area. Reach out to those whose wisdom you trust. Do not be afraid to make changes. Err on the side of good health practices...I would also encourage you to stay well informed of what the health professionals are telling us and to stay in touch with what is happening and being recommended in your own communities..."

We are not aware of any issues, but to ensure the safety of our congregation, we will be scheduling a "deep clean" of all areas over the next few weeks. Also, stay tuned for messages from Molly and the Worship & Music leaders on resources available for our use at home. Finally, I have had a few questions on how giving can be accommodated if we do not have worship services. Some have dropped off their giving envelopes and some have sent them through the mail, but I want to remind everyone that we have the ability to give online via our website at <https://www.grace43081.org/giving.html>. Please consider this option over the coming weeks.

As always, please contact me or any member of Council with any questions or concerns.

John Hicks
Congregation Council President