

E-News from St. Paul's

Upholding God's Truth and Proclaiming God's Promises

March 18, 2020

Another Reminder:

Out of love and concern for each other and our community and to help prevent the spread of COVID-19, we are SUSPENDING all services, meetings, and other activities until further notice.

Please visit stpaulsbrownsville.org or facebook.com/stpaulsbrownsville or call 920.583.4242 for more information about our reaction to this pandemic and for instructions to access our live-streamed services.

To Access the Live-Streamed Video

Visit www.facebook.com/stpaulsbrownsville. Scroll down past the initial information at the top of the page until you find the video. The video will appear live as we are creating it. It should also stay archived on the page after the stream is complete.

Note: you do NOT need to be a member of Facebook in order to access this page or watch the video. However, if you are (or decide to become) a member of Facebook, you will be able to “like” or comment on the video. This will help us know who’s watching. It will probably also help the notifications for our videos to appear higher in your “newsfeed.”

Please also note: there are more than a few members who do not have access to the Internet. Please either help us know who they are or, better yet, please see what you can do to bring them the technology so that they can watch these services. (Please practice appropriate social distancing when you do.)

To Access the Worship Folders and Bulletins

Every worship folder from now on will contain everything you need (including hymns and liturgies) in order to follow along – and participate in – the service at home. You can find a link to those folders (and our Sunday bulletins, too) by visiting our website, www.stpaulsbrownsville.org. Down the left side of the home page, you’ll find a link for “News and Worship Support.” When that page opens up, look for the worship folder you’d like to open (today’s is called “Mar 18 Midweek Lent”) and a .pdf version will open on your screen. From there you can download or print the document if you’d like. It should also work to click on the following links to find what you need.

[The News and Worship Folder page](#)

[The worship folder for today \(March 18\)](#)

We may tweak this system about with different names for the folders and documents and simpler URLs. We'll let you know if and when we make those changes.

The Next Two Sundays

Because Pastor Schwartz and I were already planning one of our pulpit swaps for the next two Sundays, and because it just doesn't make sense for both of us to come to empty churches the week of the "swap," we're planning to broadcast the services for both of those Sundays (March 22 and March 29) from St. Luke's. They will be broadcasting live on their Facebook page. I may also bring along my equipment and broadcast live on our Facebook page, too. We'll let you know when we've made the final decision on how that's going to work.

What's Next?

We made our decision to suspend all our services and other activities before Governor Evers issued his latest executive order that banned any gathering with more than ten people. Because he didn't put an end date on his order (it will last until his health emergency declaration is cancelled or until it's superceded by another order), we'll need to think of our suspension of services and activities in terms of "until further notice."

We will continue to monitor any guidance that comes from the CDC, the Coronavirus Task Force, Governor Evers, and our state and county health departments and make adjustments to our plan as necessary. Rather than speculate on what any of those options might look like, let's just leave it at "until further notice," and we'll let you know when it becomes wise or necessary to make other changes.

Prayers and Encouragements

The same prayers and encouragements I included in yesterday's notice still apply today. I'm just going to repeat them here:

We pray that the Lord would continue to give us all the health, strength, wisdom, courage, and safety we need to continue to serve him, each other, and our world during these unprecedented times. We pray that he would bless you through the Word of truth we are able to share with his gift of technology while our services are suspended. And we encourage you to remember what Scripture encourages us to do during anxious times: "Cast all your anxiety on him [God] because he cares for you" (1 Peter 5:7). He really does care for us. The way he watches over us shows us that. The way he sent Jesus as our Savior especially shows us that. The way he continues to give us his Word to strengthen our faith show us that, too.

God be with you all.

Your servant in Christ,

Pastor Bill Carter

P.S. We know that this message will not get to everyone, either because they don't have access to email, or because we don't have their current email address. Please help us get this message to any of those people that you have the ability to share it with. Thank you.