

Dear First Presbyterian Family,

As I am sure you are aware the spread of the coronavirus (COVID-19) has given cause for rising concern both within California and across the U.S. Our church Session has been closely monitoring the situation as it continues to develop, and at this time believes it to be in the best interest of our church and congregation to cancel worship service tomorrow.

Health and government officials have advised against any large gatherings in order to decrease the potential spread of the virus. Older adults and those with a weakened immune system, or pre-existing condition are at a greater risk, and are encouraged to avoid large groups if at all possible. Avoiding close contact with other people is especially important to prevent exposure to COVID-19.

In the interest of caution, we will cancel all services and activities for the next week. In the coming days we will reevaluate if it is advisable to resume activities. Our hopes are that by taking these measures, we will help to slow the progression of the disease and protect individuals that might be at an increased risk.

The Church Office will remain open this week to attend to the needs of our church and congregation. Please feel free to reach out to the church office regarding any special needs.

I continue to urge church members to follow best health practices. Please wash your hands frequently with soap or use hand sanitizer. Cover any coughs/sneezes with a tissue or cough/sneeze into your elbow. Make sure that you clean and disinfect any frequently touched surfaces such as tables, doorknobs, handles, phones, toilets, faucets, and sinks. If you are sick, stay home except to seek medical care.

I appreciate your patience and concern as we continue to navigate this situation. It is important now, more than ever, that we remain faithful and continue our prayers for the world. Pray that those who are ill might find healing, and those in distress might be filled with God's peace. Strive to remain connected with our church family via phone calls, emails, text messages or through social media. It can be very easy to become isolated during this time, so please make a conscious effort to check in with other church members.

Thank you for helping us to respond faithfully to the needs of our community.

In Christ,

Pastor David