

Dear Members and Friends of Media Presbyterian Church,

Psalm 46:1-3

- 1 God is our refuge and strength,
an ever-present help in trouble.*
- 2 Therefore we will not fear, though the earth give way
and the mountains fall into the heart of the sea,*
- 3 though its waters roar and foam
and the mountains quake with their surging.*

Good news . . . I'm very happy to share with you that our church members, Steven, Rachel and Stephen are steadily recovering from the COVID-19 infection and are generally in good spirits! **I'm also delighted to share** that no one has reported being infected as a result of Stephen and Steven being present in worship at MPC on March 1st. Thank you for your prayers for their recovery! And thank you for your prayers for our congregation as we waited through the potential 14-day incubation period (until 3/15)!

This past Sunday we had **live streaming online worship** for the first time ever at Media Presbyterian Church. I'd like to publicly thank Pastor Rose, Scott McDonald and Art Kalemkarian Jr. for helping make that happen. We had 106 devices connect to the live stream of worship. As most of those devices had multiple viewers I'm conservatively estimating that we had over 200 participants. We have received many responses to the survey sent out about that worship service. Thank you! We have indicated unanimously that it was a meaningful time of connection with Jesus through God's Word. We have also learned that many would appreciate the inclusion of worship music in this coming Sunday's online worship service. While we are still working out those details, **we will include music in this coming Sunday's online service at 10am**. You are invited to Online worship -- Please register in advance for this service: https://zoom.us/meeting/register/vJUudu-spzkiJbtS-pbP5CP_zjtZlfQAQg After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the Online Worship via Zoom Online meeting.

I also understand that many of us are struggling with the isolation created by social distancing. As we navigate this unique moment with quarantines, closures and irregular rhythms --- it is our calling to share the Love of Jesus Christ. With that intention, MPC will be providing a measure of predictability, normalcy, and connection. We will, beginning today, be sending out a daily update. This update will come from multiple voices at the church. It will begin with staff members these next few days. In addition to this daily update, **MPC staff members are sending out invitations to many smaller virtual gatherings**. Sebastian, Carrie, Pastor Rose and I will each be reaching out to different portions of the congregation for Bible Study, fellowship and prayer online or by phone.

The first of these I will announce is an **online Bible Study with me** this Friday -- Mar 20, 2020 12:00 PM Eastern Time. Please register in advance for this Bible study:

<https://zoom.us/meeting/register/v50sfuyrrzsuO3rFhiZe4bme7WVLYPUEbQ> After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the Bible Study via Zoom.

Finally, I encourage you to ask God for ways in which you can share the love of Christ with the community beyond your household and our church. Here is an idea that I intend to try this week: provide a tip when ordering take-out. Ask that it be given to a service worker who has lost that income. If, or hopefully when, you are asked why you would do that, you can respond that God is very generous and as a follower of Jesus you want to be like him (John 3:16).

Warmly in Christ,
Pastor Jonathan
Senior Pastor, Media Presbyterian Church
www.mediapresbyterian.org