



2019 Novel Coronavirus (COVID-19) Update

In response to [Governor Inslee's update](#) this morning, Seattle School District closing and additional public gathering restrictions by King County, we have made the difficult decision to cancel our Sunday gatherings for the month of March. In its place, we will immediately shift our efforts to offer our Facebook livestream service. We heard the plea from our State leadership to join in minimizing the spread of the virus and will join in unity with that request through the month of March and will reevaluate for April gatherings based on State restrictions.

We are deeply committed to sharing The Gospel and believe in times like these that offering hope is more important than ever. We are grateful for the opportunity to utilize technology to come together and look forward to “virtually” gathering with you this Sunday.

More details will be coming out in the next day or two regarding accessing the livestream on Sunday morning. See below for additional information.

Ministries

Children's & Family Ministry

Children's & Family Ministry will be going “online” the next couple of weeks! During the week, our Director of Children's & Family Ministry, Leah Barham, will send out an email with resources to parents (devotionals, videos, links, etc.). By sending parents online resources each week, each family has the flexibility to study the Bible and worship together on their schedule. AWANA will also be cancelled for the month of March. If you have any questions for Leah, you can contact her at 206-854-1684 or leah@arborheights.org.

Community Groups

Our community groups are cancelled for the month of March. While our groups will not be meeting, I want to remind us that our groups are the primary place for care and support in our church. If you have someone in your group who is elderly, or concerned to go out, please connect with them and see how you can help (i.e. groceries, errands, encouragement, etc.). If you have any questions regarding community groups, please reach out to Pastor John at john@arborheights.org.

Youth Ministry

Similar to Children's & Family Ministry, the Youth Ministry will be going “online” the next couple of weeks. During the week, our Director of Youth Ministry, Linnea McDonald, will send out an email with resources for parents and youth (devotionals, videos, links, etc.). If you have any questions for Linnea, you can contact her at 315-507-1427 or linnea@arborheights.org.

ARK Preschool

ARK Preschool will be closed for the next two weeks. After that, we will reevaluate based on State restrictions and current health guidelines. If you have specific questions about the preschool and plans, please contact our Director Loretta Kimball at 206-650-1801 or loretta@arborheights.org.

Transparency

As of March 11th there are no confirmed cases of AHCC members contracting the virus. If any AHCC member is known to be infected with COVID-19, the church body will be notified (privacy for the individual) and appropriate action taken: (1) Have the individual follow the King County Public Health guidelines; (2) Find out what other AHCC individuals or groups the individual may have been in contact; (3) AHCC will contact those persons and refer them to the KC Public Health guidelines for those who may have been exposed. If you believe you were exposed to a confirmed case of COVID-19, contact the King County novel coronavirus call center: 206-477-3977; (4) We will pray and follow-up with them.

Communication

During this season we are erring on the side of over communicating. We will continue to provide COVID-19 updates through email and our Facebook page. Daily, we check the latest news from King County Public Health and relevant news outlets. We are also in regular contact with other area churches to encourage their pastors and evaluate the wisdom of reopening public services given the latest guidelines.

Giving

Since we will not be gathering as a church in March, and in person giving won't be available, below are the available options:

1. Mail in your check. The church address is 4113 SW 102nd St., Seattle, WA 98146
2. Set up bill pay with your bank. You can contact your bank and ask to set up bill pay with AHCC and they can assist you.
3. Give online at our website under "Give"; www.arborheights.org
4. Give on the mobile app "Cash App" (you can find it in your App Store on your phone). Our account name is "\$ArborHeights". As a reminder, there are no fees, for the church or you, when using this method.

Caring For Others

If you are someone who has underlying health conditions, already sick or concerned about your overall health, please reach out to your community group leaders for assistance. As was said earlier, our community groups are designed to be the first place for care and support. Your group can help you get groceries, run errands or assist with miscellaneous needs.

In addition, I want to remind you of our Elder regional structure to assist with prayer and ministry support. Please reach out to the Elder in your area if you need any additional support beyond what your community group can offer, or if you are not part of a community group. As a reminder, our regions are broken up as follows:

Hal Kimball (North Region) – 206-898-2302; halkimball@aol.com
Randy Newburn (East Region) – 206-965-0121; rnewburn@gmail.com
Steve Klein (South Region) – 406-945-0612; snjklein55@gmail.com
John Lindow (West Region) – 206-375-2498; john@arborheights.org

Please check the Directory to see which region to you are in. You can also email our main office at info@arborheights.org with any questions or concerns.

Our Westside Witness

As followers of Jesus, we are called to be His witnesses in all of the ways we speak hope, keep the faith, trust God, love our neighbors and enemies and especially love the poor and sick. We refuse to give way to fear, remembering always how “perfect love casts out fear” (1 John 4:18) and that death has no sting or mastery over us (1 Cor. 15:55, Romans 6:9, Hebrews 2:14-15).

During this time it’s important to be centered in Jesus, taking every opportunity to display compassion for others by visiting them virtually or leaving a gift of fresh groceries for the elderly or expectant moms at their doorstep. By intentionally setting aside time to minister to others, we cut against the grain of a self-preserving culture and our own selfish ambition to live out our devotion to God and love for one-another. The point is that any difficulty is not indicative of an absent God, but rather an opportunity for God and His church to display His goodness and glory. Jesus himself demonstrated this on the cross for us.

Living With Gospel Courage,

Pastor John