



2019 Novel Coronavirus (COVID-19) Update

April 15, 2020

Hi everyone! I'm not sure about you, but my wife and I were talking this week and felt like this "stay at home" life is starting to feel somewhat normal. Are we crazy? I am enjoying the fun, closeness and laughter with my wife and daughters, but certainly missing all of you. This is tough!

Hopefully you were able to join us this past Sunday on Facebook or YouTube for our Easter service. It was awesome! While it certainly was not the same as gathering together, we got to sing and learn about the indestructible hope we have in Jesus resurrection. I am so thankful for a hope like that in a time like this. Jesus lives!

As in weeks past, please see below for details on our continued coronavirus response.

Current Situation

On April 13th California, Oregon and Washington formed a Western States Pact to collaboratively address the coronavirus pandemic. The three state governors released a statement on a shared vision to reopen the states and economies in a united way with clear goals and health targets. While we await further details, let's continue to do our part in honoring the "stay at home" order and seek ways to serve our communities with the love of Christ.

Sunday Service

As mentioned last week, our plan for the foreseeable future is Facebook live streaming from our sanctuary.

A couple things to mention:

- As a reminder, we are now including a short "Children's & Family Ministry Moment" from Leah Barham since there hasn't been any children's programming.
- Here is the Facebook link to access the live stream each Sunday;
<https://www.facebook.com/ArborHeightsCommunityChurch/>
- You can also view the service on our [AHCC YouTube Channel!](#) It is not live streamed as on Facebook so will be available later on Sunday afternoon or evening. Also, you do not need a login to access YouTube so this is available to everyone.
- As usual, the Sunday message is available on our website at www.arborheights.org under "Resources" then "Sermons".

Ministries

Children's & Family Ministry

Sadly, AWANA has been cancelled for the rest of the 2019-2020 school year. In spite of the cancellation though, many kids are still working on their books, completing their verses and checking in with their leaders. If our state allows, Leah will work to schedule an Awards Ceremony in the summer. Stay tuned for more information. If you have any questions for Leah, you can contact her at 206-854-1684 or leah@arborheights.org.

Community Groups

If you're not in a community group, but would like to be in one, please reach out to me at john@arborheights.org and we'll get you connected! Our community groups are all currently meeting via Zoom or phone.

Youth Ministry

As a reminder, Linnea is posting daily devotionals, verses and videos to our new Facebook and Instagram pages (Arbor Heights Youth). If you have any questions for Linnea, you can contact her at 315-507-1427 or linnea@arborheights.org.

Global Missions

Unfortunately, because of the pandemic, all international workers with the Christian and Missionary Alliance (C&MA) experienced a 10% reduction in funding last week. As you can imagine, this has created an additional hardship for them. Please be in prayer for them, and if you are able, considering giving to our Great Commission Fund.

ARK Preschool

ARK Preschool will not be meeting again in person until the 2020-2021 school year. Teachers are currently providing families with videos, resources and online lessons for learning. If you have specific questions about the preschool and plans, please contact our Director Loretta Kimball at 206-650-1801 or loretta@arborheights.org.

Facility

Hooray! Our carpet replacement project is finished! It looks amazing. We're going to have a whole new lower level when we return!

Arbor Heights Elementary Need

If you weren't able to join us on Sunday, Leah announced that we've given roughly \$1,300 to AHE for grocery gift cards. Way to go AHCC!!

AHE is still in need though of grocery gift cards for families at the school. To help out you can:

- Mail in grocery gift cards, or a check, to the church building; 4113 SW 102nd St. Seattle, WA 98146

- Drop gift cards, or a check, off in our mailbox just to the west of the church building on 102nd.
- Give on your mobile phone through Cash App. Our name is \$ArborHeights
- Contribute through our website under “Give”. You will need to call the office at 206-935-5714 to let them know your gift is for AHE grocery gift cards.

Please contact Charnell Bolger at charnellbolger@yahoo.com or 206-261-4445 with any questions.

Acts of Mercy

One of the things we want to do, while still observing the “stay at home” order, is serve our neighbors and community. Here are a couple examples of how that’s being done.

- **Mask Making** – Jill Alvis and her group are continuing to sew masks for health care workers, clinics, and those still working in essential businesses. Her and her team have sent out over 3,500 masks! In addition, Jill has decided to sell masks to those in our community. Rather than pay for the masks, she is asking the money be used to provide grocery gift cards at AHE. If you would like to purchase a mask by donating to AHE, or help Jill in any way, please contact Jill at 206-617-0110.
- **Grocery Gift Cards** – Over the last weeks, people have purchased grocery gift cards to help those in our church who can’t get out or in financial need. This has been a very practical way to meet tangible and immediate needs. If you would like to help in this way, please give me a call or text at 206-375-2498.
- **Do you have other ideas?** If so, text or call me at the number above. We’d love to hear them!

Events

Virtual Prayer Night

Our last virtual prayer night for the month of April will be this Wednesday, April 15th. For the remainder of April, we have a couple different events. We are evaluating picking back up the prayer nights in May. Please join me in thanking Christy Krispin for leading us each week in Scripture and prayer. Great job Christy! Below is the Zoom information for tonight’s gathering:

Join Zoom Meeting
<https://us04web.zoom.us/j/201307098>
 Meeting ID: 201 307 098
 Phone #: 253-215-8782 US

Joint WSCC Good Friday Service

If you haven’t already, you can view the West Seattle Church Collective (WSCC) Good Friday service that included songs and Scripture on our Facebook page and [YouTube Channel](#).

Global Missions Week

Our Global Missions Week, scheduled for May 4th-10th, has been cancelled. In its place, the missionary couple who were going to join us have created a number of videos to share. Randy Newburn and I are working out the details on getting these out to you. Stay tuned for further information.

Transparency

As of April 15th, 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.

Communication

We are continuing to provide COVID-19 updates through email, our Facebook page, our YouTube channel and our website. We recently added a page to our website, called "COVID-19 Updates" that includes past updates and all future updates. The link is in a blue banner at the top of the homepage.

Benevolent Fund

God is so good!! We have received a number of generous gifts to replenish our Benevolent Fund as we anticipate the needs to grow in months ahead. Thank you for your generosity AHCC and thank you God for supplying all our needs!!

At the same time, I want to encourage us to still consider giving so we can meet as many needs as possible.

Giving

A reminder that since we will not be gathering as a church in April, and possibly longer, 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 when using a debit card, for the church or you, when using this method.

Working All Things for Good

I have continually been reminded in this time how, as Paul says in Romans 8:28, God in fact does work all things together for the good of those who love him. This pandemic has been difficult in so many ways, but I have seen over and over again God doing things in my own heart, our church and community, that I never expected. I am beyond thankful that we have this hope in Christ. Without it, I'm not sure how the surrounding circumstances would be something other than disorienting and crushing. Christ makes all the difference!!

Trusting in a Faithful God,

Pastor John