



2019 Novel Coronavirus (COVID-19) Update

May 20, 2020

Happy Wednesday! I don't know about you, but do sunny days make a big difference in your life? They do for me! Just getting outside and feeling the sun on my face and warmth in my bones makes my spirit lift. No wonder there's something special about going out into nature and experiencing God's beauty. I am beyond confident He didn't design us to stay in homes all day!

I did want to follow-up on the break-in we experienced on Sunday, May 10th. We are in the process of communicating with our insurance company and working quickly to repair damaged doors and replace stolen items. Our Safety & Security Coordinator Tanya Gurb has been researching alarm systems as well as our Deacons assessing our exterior lighting. We want to both trust God as our provider and protector, while doing our part to steward well the facility and resources He's given us.

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

Current Situation

We are still in Phase 1 of Governor Inslee's re-opening plan and will be through May 31st. I did see today in the news though that a number of smaller counties throughout Washington State are moving to Phase 2. Hopefully King County can meet the required guidelines and move to Phase 2 as soon as possible. As in the past couple weeks, I've attached Governor Inslee's four-phased plan to my email.

Our Leadership Board met this past Sunday and continued to formulate our re-opening strategy. Once we have a little more specific direction from the Governor, we can begin communicating our plan.

Sunday Service

The Sunday service can be viewed at the following links:

Facebook livestream - <https://www.facebook.com/ArborHeightsCommunityChurch/>

You can also view the service on our [AHCC YouTube Channel](#).

Lastly, the Sunday message is available on our website at www.arborheights.org under "Resources" then "Sermons".

Ministries

Youth Ministry

Linnea launched a Friday night Zoom get together last week for students. She's doing some fun games, updates and teaching a new tool for Bible study. If you have a middle or high schooler in your home, please reach out to her to get your son or daughter connected! She can be reached at linnea@arborheights.org.

Community Groups

If you are not part of a community group, but would like to join one, please let me know. This can be an isolating and lonely time and being in community makes a huge difference. I can be reached at john@arborheights.org or 206-375-2498.

Arbor Heights Elementary Need

Church, there is still a need and we're still meeting it! As of this week, we've given approximately \$6,200 to AHE in grocery gift cards!! We've helped 22 families at AHE. Way to go!

If you would still like to give towards families at AHE, 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

Below is an update on the ways we are serving our community right now.

- **Mask Making** – Jill Alvis and her group are continuing to sew masks for health care workers, clinics, and those still working in essential businesses. She, Lori Kimball and their teams have sent out over 8,600 masks! In addition, Jill has decided to sell masks to those in our community. Rather than pay for the masks, money can be donated to provide either grocery gift cards at AHE or our diaper drive. If you would like to purchase a mask by donating to AHE, or our diaper drive, or help Jill in any way, please contact Jill at 206-617-0110.
- **Diaper Drive** – As of today, we've given approximately 2,300 diapers! That's a lot of diapers! We're continuing this drive for the next couple months and need all sizes of diapers including pull-ups. You can either purchase diapers yourself and drop them off at the south door entrance of our building, or give financially via one of the ways below in the "Giving" section.
- **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

All-Church Prayer Night

We picked back up our all-church prayer night this past week on Wednesday, May 13th at 7:00 pm and will continue to do so for the next 3-4 weeks. Each Elder will be taking a turn leading us in prayer and Scripture. Below is the Zoom invite (note you can attend both via video or phone):

Topic: All-Church Prayer Night

Time: Every week on Wed, until Jun 3, 2020, 3 occurrence(s)

- May 20, 2020 07:00 PM
- May 27, 2020 07:00 PM
- Jun 3, 2020 07:00 PM

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88680978813>

Meeting ID: 886 8097 8813

P: (253) 215-8782 US

Church Camping Trip

Save the date! While we don't know what this summer will look like, we're still planning to have our annual church camping trip on August 7th-9th at Whispering Pines in Cle Elum. More information will come as we get closer, but if you plan to bring a motorhome, please contact Amy Policarpio at 425-737-4342 before the end of May for details.

CityServe

We are also continuing to plan for our annual CityServe event at Arbor Heights Elementary on August 16th. While it may look a little different than last year, we likely will continue our beautifying of the school grounds and painting the playground area. Please contact Charnell Bolger at charnellbolger@yahoo.com or 206-261-4445 with any questions.

Transparency

As of May 20th, 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

If you have not done so already, please make sure to reply "YES" on your phone to the text message you received a couple weeks ago to be added to our new text messaging system. This will allow us to send out quick short messages about events, reminders and updates.

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.

Giving

If you have missed it in previous communications, because our Sunday service is closed, below are the available giving 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.

A God of Peace

Over the last month, I’ve been going through 1st Thessalonians in my morning devotions. In the last part of chapter 5, Paul says, “May God himself, the God of peace, sanctify you through and through.” I love that Paul said not “God gives us peace”, but that He is “the God of peace”. In other words, peace is not an abstract “thing” that God gives us; it is God himself. True and transformative peace does not come through nature walks, calm circumstances or the absence of conflict; peace comes from having God in our lives.

In a time of confusion, chaos and clamor, I pray that we pursue not peace, but the God of peace. And because we have “the God of peace” in our hearts, we are peacemakers wherever we go. Go in peace church!!

A Man at Rest in Christ,

Pastor John