



What's Happening at AHCC?

August 26th, 2020

Good afternoon! Well, summer is coming to a close. I think we can all agree this one will go down in the record books, not as the hottest summer, but a very strange COVID-19 summer. Cancelled vacations, masks in the heat and lots of camping all mark this peculiar time. And it's looking like the fall may not be that much different; online school, limited activities and socially distant gatherings. Aren't you glad to know God's in control? He's on the throne!

As usual, please see below for our ongoing coronavirus response and AHCC happenings.

COVID-19 Update

Thankfully, in the last month, new COVID-19 cases in Washington State have been dropping. We hit the peak around mid-July and have been decreasing since then. This is not a guarantee that we won't see another spike, but it is a move in the right direction. I am praying and hoping that we can safely move to Phase 3 as soon as possible. I want to encourage us all to continue wearing masks and social distancing to aid in our State recovery.

As a church in this time, our philosophy has been to continue as much ministry as possible, within State guidelines, while also seeking creative and innovative solutions. While some of our ministries have not been significantly affected, others have had to "think outside the box" on how we can reach our community and make disciples in everyday living.

One of our main goals during this time, and especially as we enter the fall, is to stay as connected as possible. Since COVID-19 has trimmed down our ability to gather and connect, we must be vigilant as a church to find ways to talk, share and live out authentic Christian community. Whether in a pandemic or not, God has wired us for community and we must not forsake it. Both through our Elder regional care structure and community groups, our goal is to remain connected.

Sunday Service

As a reminder, our first service has moved from 8:45 AM to 9:00 AM. The second service is still at 10:30 AM. Please remember to sign up on the [COVID-19 page](#) on our website.

Also, as a reminder, face coverings are required in all public spaces, including outdoor spaces when it's not possible to be 6 ft. apart. We're continuing to require face coverings worn at all times while inside the church building and outside when unable to be 6 ft. apart.

If you have not joined us on a Sunday yet, you will need to review the "Sunday Service Reopening Guidelines & Procedures" document on the COVID-19 page referenced above or on our church

Facebook page. This document details the specific procedures we're following at our Sunday service and expectations we ask you to follow to safely return.

Please continue checking our website and Facebook page for additional information and updates.

Lastly, while we're now gathering as a church at our building on Sundays, we're still offering our service on the platforms below. Please note we will **only** be streaming the 10:30 AM service.

- Facebook livestream - <https://www.facebook.com/ArborHeightsCommunityChurch/>
- On Mondays, after the Sunday service, on our [AHCC YouTube Channel](#).
- On Sunday afternoon, the message is available on our website at www.arborheights.org under "Resources" then "Sermons".

RightNow Media

If you were with us last Sunday, you saw that we launched an incredible new discipleship resource. We as a church now have a subscription to [RightNow Media](#), the world's largest online video library of Christian videos. They have videos on parenting, finances, leadership, marriage, work, bible studies, children, and about anything else you could think of. Here is the amazing part; everyone in our church is receiving a license!! This means you can create an account and access all 25,000 videos whenever you want in the comfort of your own home.

You received an email from RightNow Media on Monday this week. Just click on "Get Started", create an account and off you go! Whether your community group is utilizing this resource, you and your spouse go through a marriage series or you just want to do a personal study on the book of Ephesians, you can do it all with RightNow Media. I hope you start using this new resource right away and please let our office know if you have any technical issues signing up.

Ministries

Children's & Family Ministry

Because of the COVID-19 restrictions, we are continuing to have a Children's Ministry Moment during the Sunday service, but not offer children's programming. We are evaluating this possibility for the fall.

Leah has been reaching out to families over the past couple weeks to garner feedback on how best we can serve them during this season. Again, our goal is to come alongside, in whatever way we can, to help family's disciple and equip their children. With COVID-19 limiting our options, now more than ever, we are open to innovative ideas and suggestions for how best to do this.

One of the things we are looking at this fall is a Marriage Class. Marriage help, resources and equipping was one of the top requests in our class survey this past spring. More to come on this as we get into the fall.

If you have any additional questions about Children's & Family Ministry, please reach out to Leah at leah@arborheights.org.

Community Groups

Now that fall is almost here, our community groups are kicking back up in mid to late September. While we were unable to gather in person, our plan is to still connect via phone and Zoom. We're having our Community Group Sunday on September 13th to introduce our leaders, launch our groups and be reminded of the importance of living in community.

If you are currently not in a group, and would like to be, please reach out to Pastor John at john@arborheights.org or 206-375-2498 and we can get you connected!

Youth Ministry

Our Wednesday night youth group is starting back up this fall, via Zoom, on September 9th at 7:00 pm. While we all wish they were meeting in person, I am excited for the youth to gather and connect. More details will be coming to youth and their families in the weeks ahead.

Also, Linnea and Russ Barham are working with the Student Leadership Team and plan to start back up, meeting in person, in late September.

SOAP Bible Study Video

If you missed it, check out the [video](#) I made in July on our YouTube Channel about a Bible study method called SOAP. SOAP stands for Scripture, Observation, Application and Prayer. This is a great tool to help you dig into God's Word and grow in your love for Him.

Arbor Heights Elementary Need

If you missed it, please go online and check out our Sunday service from August 16th. We had the honor of hearing from Rosslyn Shea, AHE social worker, on the impact our grocery gift card initiative had on the school this summer. It was incredible! I cried!

We've supported over 50 families and 170 individuals by giving over \$8,000 in gift cards. Way to go AHCC!!

There are two more weeks to give as our grocery gift card program will come to an end on Sunday, September 6th. If you would like to give before then, you can do so per the below:

- 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.

Transparency

As of August 26th, 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.

Events

Outdoor Movie Night

Join us this Saturday, August 29th at 8:00 pm in ARK Park to watch “Paddington” together. If you haven’t seen it, it’s a very cute movie about a little bear and his exciting travels! Bring a chair, blanket and 6 ft. of space between you and others!

All-Church Prayer Night

Come join us on Tuesday, September 15th at 7:00 pm at the church building as we kick-off the fall with a time of prayer. We will be meeting at the church building in the basement Fellowship Hall. Masks will be required and we’ll observe 6 ft. of social distance.

Giving

God continues to show his faithfulness to us over and over again. We’re meeting budget and actively looking for practical ways to bless others.

If you have missed it in previous communications, below are the available giving options:

1. Give at our new Giving Station in the back of the sanctuary
2. Mail in your check. The church address is 4113 SW 102nd St., Seattle, WA 98146
3. 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.
4. Give online at our website under “Give”; www.arborheights.org
5. 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.

Where Does My Help Come From?

It is in a time of need, like this pandemic, that we discover where we truly look for help. Maybe it’s to parents, friends, a book, ourselves or a secret addiction. My assumption is that you, like me, in this season, have probably noticed how true help, real solid life-changing help, can only come from finding sanctuary in Christ. All other places of refuge eventually crumble and dissipate. No matter how hard it is and challenging it might be, are you looking to Jesus to be your help? He promises that only He has living water to satisfy our parched and weary souls.

Resting in the Wings of the Almighty,

Pastor John