

IMPACTING THE WORLD WITH GOD'S LOVE

Coronavirus and our Church

(March 20, 2020)

Dear Church family & friends,

I am writing to assure you that even in this age of “*social/physical distancing*,” Calvary Assembly of God Church is alive and well! Here is what we are doing during this time when we cannot gather together as usual. We’re really NOT canceling ministry but “transitioning” from an “in-house” mode to a “digital” mode until the threat of the virus subsides.

1. We will stay connected.

We have several reliable ways to communicate with all of our membership – by phone, by mail and digitally (social media). We will send out mailings to our households as the need warrants. Please open mail from the church immediately so you can read the latest news about our congregation. Also, we will give updates on our church website www.discovercalvary.net and on our church Facebook page (facebook.com/discovercalvarywaynesboro).

2. We will care for one another and our community.

Being the church does not depend upon our being able to gather together. Instead, we will be the church dispersed in the community. First, we will pray for one another, our community, our state, our nation, and God’s world. Second, we will respond to any needs as we’re able to. We can deliver food and household essentials to those who cannot get out to shop for themselves. We need volunteers to do this, and if you’re willing to assist in this area, please call the church office and we will develop a plan quickly and communicate it to you.

3. We will worship in our homes.

We will be live streaming our Sunday morning service at 10:00 a.m. as we normally do. We will minister the Word of God and have prayer for those who are tuned in. I encourage you to watch as a family or invite church friends over to watch with you (don’t exceed 10 in number). I will also give some devotionals on Facebook during the week. The early church began by meeting in small groups and in homes of those who professed faith in Christ. It is important to gather everyone in your home for regular Bible reading, prayer, and worship. Something as simple as saying the Lord’s Prayer together as a family or individually can provide a structure to your devotional experience.

4. We will be good stewards of our church finances.

During this time, we will continue to keep the essentials of our church budget strong, while maintaining support for our other ministry partners who are also adapting to this new reality. I know

you will be faithful in your continued support of our church. Our church is financially stable because we have good financial leadership, and with your help we will maintain that strength!

5. We will follow the guidance of the Centers for Disease Control, the Pennsylvania Department of Health, Franklin County Health Department, and other government agencies who are advising us. We follow those guidelines as good citizens, good neighbors, and out of love for the most vulnerable in our church and community.

6. We will continue to minister to our members and our community.

During this time the church office will be closed however you can still contact us if you desire to. Teresa Carter is our office administrator and her email is: www.teresacalvary@gmail.com The church office phone number is (717) 762-5432. Our Associate/Youth Minister, Pastor Jess will continue to offer ministry to our youth, primarily through digital format. The youth "Sandwich Sale" has been postponed for now and it will be done once we're able to gather again. Since all services and activities have been curtailed, the church office is not "open house" to the public. We need to protect those still serving from the public at large. Some of our staff may be working from home until the virus risk decreases.

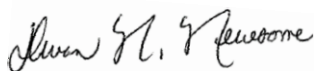
I will continue to serve on my regular schedule as your pastor and am available to you anytime you need me. My personal cell phone is (717) 404-6231 and my residence number is (717) 762-1926, and my email address is: www.dwannewsome@comcast.net Please call, text, or email me anytime you have a prayer request, question, concern, or suggestion. I am available for prayer, counseling, in person or telephone visit, or for any other need that might arise. Needless to say, I am taking recommended precautions, have canceled non-essential meetings, and seek to limit my exposure so that I can continue to minister to our church and community.

As a church and as fellow Christians, we have always responded to social crises with love, compassion, faith and courage. While we do not want to jeopardize health and safety, we are a resilient congregation and will design ways to help each other and our community during this crisis.

Again, please watch for mailings and information on to be posted on our church website and our church Facebook page. We have started gathering your email and cell phone numbers so that we can communicate in as many ways as we can with you. If you haven't submitted your numbers, please forward them to us and we'll add them to our list.

During this crisis, our confidence and faith is in the God of all creation, our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, and in the presence of the Holy Spirit. Although these are unprecedented times, God is still on His Throne. We have a message of faith, hope and love, and we will continue to share it with the world.

We're Better Together,



Dwan N. Newsome
Lead Pastor