



HEBRON

3/17/20

Dear Faith Family,

I truly hope each of you is well and seeing the gospel advance in and through you. Thank you to so many of you who joined us online this past Sunday and invited others to do so as well. Your feedback has been encouraging and helpful. In light of the 15-day directive from the White House and the CDC, we will be online only for the next two Sundays (March 22 and March 29). I'm grieved at the thought of enduring more Sundays separated physically, but so grateful we can "gather" spiritually through technology. If you are unsure how to connect to our service on Sunday, you can [click here](#). We will continue our series in Revelation with Chapter 19 this Sunday and Chapter 20 the following Sunday. Decisions on future Sundays will be made as we have more information in the coming weeks.

Though these types of "gatherings" are not ideal or preferred, it does not mean they are not beneficial. I believe we are going to see the gospel advance in incredible ways during these unique days of ministry. I also know the Lord is going to use you in the lives of others beyond what we could ask or imagine right now. Divine conversations are going to take place that would not have occurred had everything tracked on with a "normal" spring. I also believe, God is going to use our absence from one another to increase our desire to gather together again and not take it for granted as we may have done from time to time. God will carry out His plans to use all of this for our good and to conform us further to the image of Christ and for these blessings we can rejoice!

Thank you to so many younger members who have signed up to serve our older members. We've seen needs met already and we expect more to be addressed in the coming days. If you've signed up to help, thank you. We will let you know as additional needs are requested. If you've not signed up to serve yet, but would like to do so, [click here](#). If you are an older member and would like help, then you can contact rsims@hebronchurch.org.

Thank you also to so many who've provided so well for our food bank. We've seen needs met here as well and anticipate an increase in those seeking assistance soon. Our current hours are 3:00-5:00 PM on Mondays and Wednesdays. You can drop off items you are

donating during these times. Here is a [list](#) of items we currently need. For those needing food, appointments are helpful so that our volunteers are not overwhelmed at one time. If you or someone you know needs to make an appointment with our food bank then you can email cledbetter@hebronchurch.org or aplatt@hebronchurch.org or call 470.504.0934.

Thank you, as well, for giving cheerfully and sacrificially this past Sunday. Your continued giving allows us to come alongside individuals and families both inside and outside of our congregation who are walking through financial difficulties. As brothers and sisters in Christ, we are called to enter into each other's burdens, so if we can help you or your family during this time, please do not hesitate to reach out.

Finally, I want to say thank you to our entire staff as they strive during this unique season of ministry to do all we can to continue equipping those entrusted to our care. I'm grateful for our Communications Team as they work diligently to help us be able to accomplish ministry both on and off our campus. I'm thankful for Matt King using his production gifts to help continue to tell the story of what God is doing. I'm grateful to Kevin Wilkins who is helping serve sister churches by using our technology to record sermons for their congregations to have on Sundays while they cannot gather as well. I'm thankful for all who were willing to help us make last Sunday so successful and who will help us in the coming weeks.

At the end of today, we will be closing our offices until March 31, but we will not be closing our ministry. All of our Ministerial Staff and Ministry Assistants will still have access to our phones, emails, voicemail, and other usual forms of communication and will still be working. We will just not be on campus except for essential meetings or ministries. We will continue to have pastors on call who will follow up with you as ministry needs arise in your family. To reach them, simply call 470.504.0934. For general questions or to leave a voicemail with a specific staff person, you can reach our directory by dialing 770.962.3671.

As always, I want to leave you with a passage of Scripture because nothing is better for God's people than God's Word. In Eph. 5:15-16, Paul exhorted the church at Ephesus to "Look carefully then how you walk, not as unwise but as wise, making the best use of the time, because the days are evil." Please join me in praying that the Lord will grant all of us the wisdom we need to steward these days well. How can you best use this season for the glory of God and the good of others? How can you use this season to grow in Christ and to help others grow in Christ? What conversations do you need to have that you have perhaps delayed? I'm praying that we will all look more like Jesus on the day we gather next than we did on the last day we gathered. We can achieve this aim if we keep helping

each other look to Christ day by day. Reach out to your brothers and sisters in your Connect Groups. Reach out to the others you know who serve in ministries with you. Find ways to encourage and serve one another.

Please stay in touch with us. Let us know of needs that you or others you know may have so that we can come alongside of you for the sake of the gospel. I miss you greatly, but look forward to “gathering” with you online this Sunday as we see in Revelation 19 the King of Kings and Lord of Lords returning on a white horse. Let us join with all of Heaven in shouting, “Hallelujah!” Even if it’s from our couches!!!

Contending for Christ,

Pastor Landon



HEBRON

3/11/20

Dear Faith Family,

Psalm 95-97 are among my favorite three-chapter clusters in all of Scripture. In these passages, we are reminded “The LORD reigns, let the earth rejoice;” (97:1) and that “the LORD is a great God, and a great King above all gods” (95:3). Most comforting, the psalmist tells us that the One who gave the mountains their height and the seas their depth “is our God, and we are the people of His pasture, and the sheep of His hand” (95:7). We are so thankful God is not just the King and the Maker, but He is our Father. And our Father is still in control of all that is happening and will happen in our world. He is worthy of all our praise, thus the psalmist calls us to “ascribe to the LORD the glory due His name;...worship the LORD in the splendor of holiness” (96:8-9). At all times and all places, we should “sing to the LORD, bless His name; (and) tell of His salvation from day to day” (96:1). We intend to do that this Sunday as we do every Sunday, but this Sunday may look a little different.

In light of recommendations from the CDC and the World Health Organization, as well as, our governor who are all advising against large public gatherings of all kinds (not just churches), we will offer an **ONLINE SERVICE ONLY THIS SUNDAY**. We are doing so out of an abundance of caution and out of care for the most vulnerable in our community. We are not panicked and we are not afraid; we are hoping to be a part of helping the situation instead of contributing more harm. We trust that God is using even this for our good and for His glory. With this news in mind, I want to help you in several additional ways:

Here’s how you can join our service online:

Website: www.hebronchurch.org Click on Media and then Watch Live

Facebook live: [Hebron Baptist Church](#)

If you haven’t downloaded our app for your mobile devices, here are the links to do that: [Hebron App Links](#)

Invite others you know to watch our service online (from wherever they are) and then follow up with them in conversations afterward.

Shepherd your family. Our discussion questions are [online](#) and you can use them to lead your family to talk through our text together following the sermon.

Continue to give. In our online service, we will still have a time that we pray over the offering. You can huddle with your family during that time and then [give](#) online together. We know that some of our families will be impacted financially because of less hours at work or even no hours at work and we want to be able to enter into their burden with them. Your continuing to give sacrificially and cheerfully makes this possible. Here are all the ways you can continue to [give online](#).

We will not have any weekday ministries/activities for March 16th-20th. We will move forward from here on a week by week basis and will make an announcement March 20th about any additional postponements if needed. We will also temporarily suspend hospital visits by our staff, but we will still be calling and checking in on as many people as possible. If you are sick or know of someone in our faith family who is sick, please contact our staff and make sure we know so we can minister as best as we can.

Remember, our food pantry is available if you or others you know have need.

I want to close with one of my favorite benedictions found in the book of Hebrews. “Now may the God of peace who brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus, the great shepherd of the sheep, by the blood of the eternal covenant, equip you with everything good that you may do his will, working in us that which is pleasing in his sight, through Jesus Christ, to whom be glory forever and ever. Amen” (Heb. 13:20-21). Amen, indeed.

As always, I look forward to gathering with you this Sunday, even if it will be online. I’m praying for you.

Contending for Christ,

Pastor Landon