

*God is our refuge and strength,
a very present help in trouble.
Therefore we will not fear, though the earth should change,
though the mountains shake in the heart of the sea;
though its waters roar and foam,
though the mountains tremble with its tumult.*

Psalms 46: 1-3

Brothers and Sisters in Christ

As most of you are aware, the Governor has called for “social distancing” and asked those who are able and those who are most vulnerable to stay at home and avoid public gatherings. This is necessary to slow the spread of the virus and the forthcoming necessary medical care.

Carnegie Presbyterian Church leadership desire to comply and to do our part by cancelling events at our church, including worship. Therefore, we will not gather for worship on Sunday, March 15th. But this will not prohibit us gathering as a family of faith. We expect this to effect additional Sundays, no one is certain how long, so arrangements are being made to provide worship within your homes. On Sunday, March 22nd we will worship electronically. You may join the worship service by video (*computer*) or audio (*phone*). More information will be forthcoming about the and the procedure to ensure you are included in our worship service. It is vital that we continue to worship during this time of uncertainty and fear.

All other meetings and activities at the church will be cancelled until the Governor releases the ban. The Easter Experience has been rescheduled and renamed to Resurrection Experience and at this time is scheduled for May 3rd from 1-3 PM. The Community Prayer service scheduled on March 25th will not be held, in person, instead we will gather again from our homes. Personal visitation will resume when permitted.

As Christians we have a wonderful opportunity to reach out and check on our neighbors and friends. I will be available for prayer, concerns and questions during the weeks ahead. Our road sign offers prayer for our community and those around the world. Let us continue to be in prayer for those who are sick, those who are suffering economically, those who are lonely in isolation, those in our government and especially first responders and those in the health field. If you have prayer requests, please feel free to call or email me.

Many children in our area receive two meals a day while they are in school. With the schools closed St. John's, in conjunction with the Pennsylvania Food Bank, will be providing one meal a day. This is being staffed by a collaboration of the faith communities in Carnegie. If you have clearances and are willing to pass out a lunch bag to children, please contact me.

We encourage you to continue to support the work of the congregation through your tithes, pledges and offerings. Be assured, the mail will be secure if you desire to mail your offerings. Even though we are not physically meeting, our levels of financial support remain the same. We give thanks for your continued support

Please heed the Governor's request to practice social distancing and avoid public gatherings, if at all possible. If you are at risk – stay home! This is not only for your own good, but for others that you may encounter. It will decrease the spread of the disease and lessen the time that we are asked to not congregate. Please do your part by staying home as much as possible.

The leadership of our congregation will continue to monitor developments and respond as we gain new wisdom. I will be available by phone for prayer and to answer questions. Please feel free to contact me at 412-997-8934 or revmolinaro@gmail.com.

Know that I am praying for each of you every day.

Serving Jesus with you

Colleen

Rev. Dr. Colleen Molinaro

*“Be still, and know that I am God!
I am exalted among the nations,
I am exalted in the earth.”
The LORD of hosts is with us;
the God of Jacob is our refuge.*

Psalms 46: 10-11