

Butler Church Family & Friends,

Grace and peace to you church. Those words, *Grace* and *Peace*, carry significant meaning for us in the midst of the coronavirus pandemic. You have no doubt been following the latest news regarding this virus and the steps being taken by leadership in our government and other key agencies. Though this news can raise anxieties and will challenge our routines, I want to encourage us to be a church which responds to this current reality with the grace and peace of Christ. With that in mind I share the following:



### **Pray**

Philippians 4:6 tells us to turn to prayer when we worry, and that as we share both our needs and our thanks with God our hearts will find peace. Let us keep vigilant in prayer both for those we know and those we don't, especially those who are dealing with this virus head on.

### **Trust God**

Psalms 46 says that our God is our refuge and our strength, an ever-present help in trouble. Scripture tells us time and again to trust that God is with us, and we know that he is! While we take responsible action to remain healthy, may we be just as vigilant to share grace as we care for others.

### **Meeting Together**

Our plan for now is to continue to gather for worship at our usual times and locations. We will continue to monitor the latest situation and recommendations. We will inform the church promptly should any plans change moving forward.

### **We encourage everyone to practice the following safe practices:**

- Wash your hands thoroughly and often, and refrain from touching your face.
- Cover your mouth with a tissue or the crook of your arm when coughing or sneezing.
- Limit physical contact. We can still offer warm smiles, waves and humble bows!
- Look out for others. As we seek to distance ourselves physically, let us not neglect our care and concern for one another. Phone calls transmit no germs!
- Remain home if sick. Stay home, get well, and let others know so we can pray for you.

### **Campus Precautions**

We have already thoroughly cleaned and disinfected our church campus this week and will be vigilant in cleaning moving forward. If you would like to be part of this effort, please contact the church office.

With every challenge comes opportunity. Pray that God might use each of us to offer grace and peace to our community. Pray for our pastors and leaders as we discern ways to continue the fellowship and mission of the church. Be confident church, for God is able to do exceedingly more than we can hope or imagine.

Blessings,  
Pastor Scott Holman

March 13, 2020