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March 15, 2020

Dear Cambria Baptist Church Family and Friends,

Psalm 46 reminds us that God is sovereign over all creation. Every molecule in existence is subject to Him alone. We must remember in these days that we serve a Kingdom that is not of this world. So, we use opportunities to spread the glorious message of the gospel. Further, it is vital that we practice grace towards one another. Some view the events of the past week differently than others. Let us not glory in criticism, but in care.

The gathering of the body of Christ for worship, edification, and fellowship is central to our identity as believers. This is why God commanded us in Hebrews 10:25 not to forsake the assembling of believers. We are also aware that this past week the governor has recommended that groups of more than 100 people not meet together. In these unprecedented times, it is important that we seek for creative ways with which to fulfill God's commands while also caring for the health of our fellow members who are most vulnerable (1 John 3:11). We must also do our best to submit to our civil authorities (Romans 13:1). This afternoon, I met with the deacons to discuss our responses to this pandemic. Please know that the decisions made were not taken lightly. Through careful thought and prayer, we came to some very difficult conclusions. I have outlined the decisions made below:

1. We will be cancelling the Sunday School hour through April 5th. This decision was made for two primary reasons. First, the Sunday School hour places our body into very close proximity in small rooms. Second, the Sunday School hour increases the exposure time on Sunday Mornings,
2. We will continue maintain a Sunday Morning Service as long as the government does not mandate its closure. However, understanding that some are more vulnerable to this virus, and understanding that others are uncomfortable with coming during this time, we have created a plan through which they can worship with us. We will begin video recording the Sunday sermons and placing them onto our YouTube channel. We will send out the link to the channel on Friday. We will also be posting the sermons to the website and podcast on Sunday afternoon. Further, we will be emailing to the congregation the bulletin and Sermon manuscript on Fridays. This will be done so that the head of household can lead the family in worship.
3. We will be cancelling Evening Services through April 5th. Several factors played a role in this decision. First, we believe that there is a need to disinfect the building between meetings and this would be challenging to complete on Sunday Afternoon. Second, the majority of those who attend this service are in the group that is most vulnerable to the virus.
4. We will be cancelling Tuesday Morning Men's Bible Study through March 31st. We believed that the potential cost of gathering for the next couple weeks outweighed the need.



It is vital that we care for one another as a church body. There are parents in our body who will be in need of child-care. There are those

among the most vulnerable who are worried about entering the war zone that is the grocery store. These are times when we can meet these needs for our church family and for our neighbors. We will be bringing you more opportunities to serve those around you in the near future.

If you have any questions regarding the decisions made, please contact me. Once again, let me encourage you to respond with grace and the gospel. Now is not the time for us to declare our own understanding, but to care for the vulnerable. Now is the time for a confused and scared world to see the shining light of the gospel. Thank you for your understanding and prayer.

May God bless you and keep you,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Dave", written in a cursive style.

Pastor Dave and Your Board of Deacons.

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