



222 Schoolhouse Lane
Columbus Ohio, 43228-1217
Telephone: (614) 878-4623
E-Mail: wpc222@sbcglobal.net
Website: westminstercolumbus.org

Rev. Douglas D. Browne, Pastor

March 23, 2020

Dear Sisters and Brothers of Westminster,

Your congregational leadership is very aware of the current concerns regarding the COVID-19 virus. We are paying close attention to the situation, and your safety is very important to the Pastor, Session, and Staff. We are doing everything we can to stay current with public health guidelines and orders from the State of Ohio.

We love you, and we want you to be as safe as we can manage. Accordingly, we are not holding in-person worship, Sunday School, or other activities until further notice.

The Chicken-Noodle Dinner is postponed to a date still to be determined: the situation is changing too quickly for Session to be comfortable naming a date.

We are moving our Sunday 10:30 am EDT worship to the Zoom videoconferencing platform. Don't panic – you do not have to be a computer whiz or even have a computer! Instructions for downloading and installing the Zoom application to a PC, Macintosh computer, smartphone, or tablet are available on the church website (<https://www.westminstercolumbus.org/>) or linked from the church Facebook page (<https://www.facebook.com/westminstercolumbus/>).

The Zoom meeting is <https://us04web.zoom.us/j/506001432>.

We will hold practice sessions, to let you try this out, at the following dates/times:

- Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday, 3/25-27, 6-7 pm
- Saturday, 3/28, 10:30 am – noon.

These sessions will use the same meeting address and telephone number as worship.

If you don't have Internet access or the Zoom application does not work for you for whatever reason (including not choosing to mess with it), you can simply pick up your telephone at 10:15 or so on Sunday, dial +1-312-626-6799, and, when prompted, enter the meeting ID 506 001 432. You will be connected in with the rest of us. If you're planning on doing this, don't worry about finding the Zoom instructions online.

If you are a local part of our congregation family, you should be getting at least weekly calls from one of the Deacons, checking to make sure that you are all right and that you have everything you need (groceries, medications, someone to talk to). If you're not getting these calls, or if you need something, please call one of the Deacons or contact me at the contact information below, and we will do our best to make sure you have what you need.

If there is a pastoral emergency, please don't hesitate to call me. I will come, if that makes sense in the situation and I am permitted to do so. If that doesn't make sense, I'll be glad to pray for you and pray with you over the phone.

Let us all pray for all those around the world who are affected by this outbreak, and for the medical professionals seeking to respond to the situation. Through all of this, let us rejoice that, "nothing in life or in death can separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord."

Wash your hands. Trust God. Care for one another.

Pastor Doug
Douglas.d.browne@gmail.com
(m) +1-614-578-9756