

March 14, 2020

Hi Friends,

After prayer and discernment, I am convinced we need to cancel worship this week. I am also canceling our scheduled church activities and meetings at both Thompsontown and Locust Run. I write this with a heavy heart. I love worshipping with you all and I am excited about our current sermon series.

We really do not know much about COVID-19 (coronavirus). With the president declaring a state of emergency, our governor closing the schools, and after talking to leaders in our charge, I think for the safety of our regular worship participants (and our larger community) we need to cancel worship, meetings, and church activities for this week.

Regular attenders at both churches are in the age range that would put them at risk. Even if you are not in the category of high risk, you probably interact with people who are in that category. We are called to love our neighbor. Loving our neighbor means putting what is best for others over our wants and desires. I want to worship with you tomorrow, but I do not think it is the loving thing to do.

Please spread the word. Call and text anyone you can think of. Also, please check up on each other. As we practice social distancing, we need to step-up reaching out to each other in safe ways.

Pray for Pastor Barbara Snyder. She will be your new pastor starting July 1. Pastor Barbara is sick (not COVID-19) and needs prayers.

We'll take things day by day. In terms of next Sunday, we will see what seems reasonable, prudent, and above all else - loving. I will chat with the pastors in our cluster and see what we might be able to do for our area.

Do not hesitate to call me if you want to talk or need prayer (304-554-9131).

Some online worship opportunities -

Juniata County Radio - <https://www.juniatacountyradio.com/copy-of-snow-patrol>

UM Church of the Resurrection - <https://cor.org/>

Saint Paul's UM State College - [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=QcSot\\_xuLGk&feature=youtu.be](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=QcSot_xuLGk&feature=youtu.be)

Camp Hill UMC - <https://camphillumc.org/>

The Journey Harrisburg - <https://www.facebook.com/thejourneyhbg>

Peace,  
Andrew