

VOYAGE CHURCH

LIVE THE LOVE

Dear Voyage family,

On Sunday evening, the State of Michigan Health Department issued an emergency order effective Wednesday, Nov. 18, 2020 to slow the pandemic spread of the Coronavirus. Yesterday, Pastor Adam, Vice President of the Nav. team Don Visker and I joined with other leaders from our Classis (regional area of RCA churches) to consider how to respond. In turn, we shared a recommendation with the rest of the Nav team to move to online only worship for the next three weeks. This is the step that the classis strongly recommended (despite the fact that churches may choose to be exempt of the order). We feel this is the best course of action as we strive to make a sacrifice now in order to hopefully curb increasing Covid numbers as well as protect the health and safety of church attenders and those they interact with.

Of course, we wish this wasn't necessary and we certainly do not want to lose momentum. However, as the number of cases has risen, we have recently seen a decline in worship due to more people either quarantining or staying away out of caution. We have also experienced increasing difficulty in finding volunteers to lead worship, run tech, assist in the nursery and help with Kid's crew.

The online worship service for the next three Sundays will be pre-recorded and made available at 10 a.m. on Sundays (viewable any time after that). It will be a full service including music, message, communion, and special events like the lighting of Advent candles. We are pre-recording this rather than recording a live Sunday service to spread out the filming of the participants and put together a more polished and professional service. This also avoids potential internet connection troubles on a Sunday morning.

For groups (impact groups, search team, prayer team, etc...), we are leaving the specific meeting details up to each group. Our hope is that groups will continue to stay connected, rather than cease meeting altogether. We believe that groups are one key way that we can care for one another and promote social interaction even if it is virtual. Please contact Adam, Sue or myself if you need to utilize Voyage's zoom contract for a group meeting. If groups choose to meet onsite, we are asking that masks be worn and adequate social distancing occur (such as one person at a table with many tables set up) or chairs spread far apart

Please continue to “live the love” to those around you, pray for the needs of Voyage and beyond, call or text someone you know who may be alone or struggling and join us for worship online for the next three Sundays.

**On behalf of the Navigation team,
Transition Pastor Steve**