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Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

The news is changing hourly, as are the instructions for dealing with COVID 19. This letter is to provide you with the latest decisions regarding worship and other activities at Holy Lamb.

At a joint meeting of the Council and Elders on Monday, the decision was made to suspend all gatherings at Holy Lamb for 2 weeks. At that point, on March 30, the Council and Elders will meet again to assess the situation at that time and make further decisions.

This suspension includes all worship services, Bible studies, administrative and committee meetings, outside organizations, and our preschool.

At the same time, we are implementing plans to provide as much spiritual and material support as possible during these challenging times. To that end, below are the steps we are trying to take. I say 'trying' because not everything is working as we had expected. We continue to adapt our plans to accommodate the reality of the mechanisms we are using.

- **Worship – by phone** – While the best worship experience would include the video feed described below, we recognize that not everyone uses a computer. For those whose only connection is the telephone, we have explored many options. Without going into detail, the simplest means of making a phone connection will for one person at Holy Lamb to create a conference call by calling each household shortly before the worship service.

This means we need to know who desires a call; you must be available up to 10 minutes before the service begins to receive the call; if a call is dropped for any reason, we will not be able to reconnect; if a call is not answered we will not be able to retry.

Please leave a message on the church answering machine requesting a phone call, including the phone number that we should call.

Wednesday online and phone worship services will begin at 7:00pm.

Sunday online and phone worship services will be a single service at 9:00am.

- **Worship – online** – We will be live-streaming on Facebook, beginning with our Lenten service this evening. We hope to expand that to Youtube by Sunday. A link to these sites will be posted on our website: [Holylambmyrtlebeach.org](http://Holylambmyrtlebeach.org)

In addition to the live feed, the videos will be available as a saved video for viewing afterward.

- **Worship via pastoral visit** – Since we will not be able to offer communion by either of the methods above, I am willing and available to visit as many members as possible to bring communion. As I indicated previously, I have gloves and N95 masks to wear for these visits to protect all of us from the virus. Please call to make an appointment.

- **Bible study** – We are still exploring opportunities for interactive Bible studies. We expect to have something in place by next week, if not sooner. Contact your Bible study leader for the latest.
- **Administrative meetings** – Most will be suspended. Any that are essential can happen via the same mechanism that is implemented for Bible studies. Again, contact the head of the committee.

We have many members who should not be leaving their house under any circumstances due to increased risks, should they contract this virus. This includes those who are already experiencing health issues and people who have reached an age at which they are more susceptible. I am not foolish enough to specify an age.

For those who are homebound we, as the church, have an opportunity to be the hands of Jesus in meeting their needs. From grocery shopping to picking up prescriptions to phone calls bringing companionship and comfort, we can do a great deal to help them get through this crisis as easily as possible. Please give some thought to how you might be able to assist with these acts of kindness.

I will have more on that subject, soon. Right now I need to get this published because of the important information above.

Our marquee sign now reads:

WORSHIP CONTINUES ... ONLINE

GOD'S GRACE CONTINUES ... ALWAYS

This is the truth that comforts us in these difficult times – God's grace is always with us.

In His service,

*Pastor Pammy*