



proclaiming and serving Jesus Christ

March 17th, 2020

Dear Friends in Christ:

Our congregation council met tonight and decided that St. Stephen Lutheran Church worship services, meals, and education will be suspended until further notice as we steward the health of ourselves and our neighbors in these times. The council will reassess the community situation on Friday March 31st, and if still needed, on a regular basis afterwards. St. Stephen Pre-school will continue to remain open at this time.

The ministry to which God has called us will continue in differing ways. We will have services online for our Wednesday Evenings (6 pm) and Sunday Mornings (9:30 a.m.). They will appear on both Facebook and YouTube. Confirmation will continue with at-home lessons. There are other ways that we plan on connecting as well.

The council will be honest with you. We are concerned about the financial impact the congregation will feel by not having regular worship services, quite possibly for an extended period of time. We would encourage you to enroll in regular/recurring electronic giving if you have not already done so. You can do so by going here: <https://tinyurl.com/huylhx7> Click "**Create Profile**" to begin the process.

As we socially distance ourselves from one another, let us continue to care for our neighbors' needs with the compassion and love to which Jesus calls us. Let us further encounter this challenge and consider it an opportunity, as a different way to be church, and a different way to live out our common baptism. Jesus is the one who came "to make all things new."

If you have questions, concerns, or pastoral needs please contact us:

Pastor Lyle Snyder – (507) 828-3893 (cell)

Congregational President Daren Kesteloot (507) 829-4989 (cell)

Church Office – (507) 537-1516

Please Visit our congregation's website for updated information as it becomes available: www.ststephenmarshall.org Or follow us on Facebook at www.facebook.com/ststephenmarshall/

In Christ+

Pastor Lyle & The St. Stephen Lutheran Church Congregation Council

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Lyle Snyder, Pastor