

CONGREGATIONAL LETTER

March 16, 2020

Dear Crestwood Family,

There's an old Chinese curse that says, "May you live in interesting times." We certainly find ourselves in interesting times now, times filled with anxiety, fear, and an unknown future. Your staff at Crestwood is committed to modeling God's hope, peace, and constant presence in the midst of these interesting times.

There are several items we want to address that will help you know how Crestwood plans to deal with this ongoing crisis. Our goal is to help you stay connected with God and each other so that you have the support and spiritual nourishment you need.

WORSHIP – We are committed to following the CDC's guideline of no gatherings over 50 people. Therefore, we will not gather for worship in person on Sunday mornings for the next several weeks. But that does NOT mean that we won't worship! We are still the body of Christ, called together to praise and worship God. We will continue to live-stream a worship service at 10 a.m. each Sunday morning. The live worship will be available on the church's Facebook page, and it will be available about an hour after it ends on the church's website. We encourage you to join us virtually – and invite your friends! We are working hard to provide a meaningful online worship experience for you. As guidelines change, we will adjust accordingly to allow people to gather in person.

CHURCH EVENTS – For now, all church gatherings – no matter the number of people – are postponed until we have a better sense of what is prudent. Some groups, like the Administrative Board, will set up teleconference meetings. As guidelines change, we will reassess this practice and make changes accordingly.

GIVING – Your support of the church continues to be important as we seek to serve this congregation and the community. Since we are not gathering in person, we encourage you to take advantage of the online giving options available to you. Click this link to learn more about how you can give online to help support the church's work. <https://www.crestwoodchristian.org/giving/>

SANCTUARY OPEN – If you are feeling disconnected from your church home, we are opening the sanctuary each day from 9 a.m.-5 p.m. for people to use for prayer time. There will be hand sanitizer located at each entrance to the sanctuary. Please feel free to come by for prayer or quiet time as a way of remembering that God is with us through this journey.

STAYING CONNECTED – It's supremely important that we find ways to stay connected even when we can't gather in person. We have to look out for each other during times like these. We are working on a plan for the Elders to check on the congregation, but in the meantime, we encourage you to take out your church directory and check in on the folks who are on the same page as you, even if you don't know them. What a great way to reconnect with church friends and make some new ones! Please use this practice to care for each other. If you need a copy of the church directory, contact the church office.

DEVOTIONS – We plan on sending out devotionals every Monday, Wednesday, and Friday via email and our Facebook page as a way of giving you spiritual nourishment and grounding in the midst of the storms swirling around us. You'll start receiving these devotions this week. We hope they are helpful to you as we deal with all the emotions of this crisis.

Please remember your church staff is here for you. If there's anything you need, don't hesitate to contact us! We're glad to make a grocery store run or pick up food for you if you can't get out. You are NOT alone, and it is our faith in God and our connection to each other that will sustain us through this. Please know we are lifting you up in prayer and are honored to serve you. We will get through this together, with the help of God.

Blessings,

Kory, Trish, Brian, and your Crestwood Staff

Joys and Concerns

MEMBERS: The family of Debbie LaBoone, Monte LaFrana, *the family of Joyce Leininger, Traci Letcher, Georgia Meece, Bob Noel

FAMILY: ***Bill Ercolini** (of Gayle Hutcherson), **Rusty Haydon** (mother of Donna Gibson), **Karen McGaughey** (cousin of Betty Barton), **Chloe McGlade** (sister of Amy Knight), **Sharon McKenney** (sister of Lynn West), **David Satterly** (son-in-law of Virginia Long), **Bill Summerlin** (son of Sylvia Griffin), **Jim Wallace** (father of Scott Wallace)

FRIENDS: **Gordon Burkett** (of Christie Oliver), **Aileen Dalton** (of Christie Oliver), **the family of Jake Gibbs** (of Crestwood), **Steve Marcum** (of Sally Fordham), **Katherine McKee** (of Ellen Williams), **Charles Myers** (of Louise Sargent), **Len Nichols** (of Sandra Thompson), **Margaret Roberts** (of Darval Rash), **Gerald Spencer** (of Tom Arnold), **Rev. Beth Thomason** (of Virginia Long), **Jane Tucker** (of Kathy Stone), **Regan Wrentmore** (of Ruthie DeLacey)

ARMED FORCES: **Anar Aliyev** (of Crestwood), **Paul Baird** (grandson-in-law of Minva Hodgins), **Blake and Jill Chambers and family** (grandson of Joe and Karen Billings), **Travis Cramer** (son of Rick and Cathy Tittmann), **Bud DeLacey** (nephew of Matt and Michelle DeLacey), **Nelda Derrick** (of Joyce Leininger), **Scott Eldridge** (of Pamela Wainscott), **Andrew Lynn** (grandson of Joe and Karen Billings), **Patrick Ritter** (great-nephew of Betty Tester), **David Schloesser** (of Matt Staggs), **Rocky Shapla** (friend of Jane Johnson), **Zoe Sims** (granddaughter of John Sims), **Dalcus Sparks** (nephew of Andrea Back), **Justin Witt** (nephew of Jack Witt)

HEART-TO-HEART MEMBERS: Jean Aspley, Margaret Buchanan, Billie Casey, Carolyn Floyd, Carl and Jean Ham, Nettie Sue Hughbanks, Georgia Meece, John Sims, Ruby Thornton, Jean Walters

OUR WORLD COMMUNITY: We pray for the inmates of the Fayette County Detention Center and their families, and for God's presence and peace in areas of turmoil and suffering around the world.

*Names added this week.

Names are included on the prayer list for one month.

If a name has been removed that you would like added back on, please contact the church office.

EASTER TULIP AND LILY ORDER FORM



Cost: \$8 each

Order and payment deadline: Monday, April 6

**Please pay at the church office or online
at www.crestwoodchristian.org under the "Give" tab.**

Your Name: _____ Phone: _____

Total Quantity: Tulips _____ Lilies _____

*Please circle **Memory** or **Honor** and fill in name.*

In **Memory** or **Honor** of: _____

In **Memory** or **Honor** of: _____

In **Memory** or **Honor** of: _____

Payment by: Cash Check

Online (On the online giving page, choose **Payment**.)

Note **Tulip** or **Lily** and memorial or honorary designation in Special Instructions.)

We are still planning on ordering flowers to decorate our sanctuary for Easter. Whether we worship in person or online, we want the sanctuary to look its best for this special service. If you would like to purchase a tulip or lily in memory or honor of someone to place in our sanctuary on Easter morning, please submit order form and payment by Monday, April 6. The cost for each plant is \$8. To order and pay online, click [here](#) and choose Payment. Note **Tulip** or **Lily** and memorial or honorary designation in Special Instructions.