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A NOTE FROM PASTOR DAVE

This Changes Things. The focus of RVC is “Bringing In and Sending Out”. Bringing in just got really difficult. I think we have changed plans here at church five times in the last six days. It is crazy, stressful, and new to most of us. Yet our hope is unchanging. We hope in the God who breathed life into us at creation and who gives eternal life through His Holy Spirit at Salvation. He is immovable. He is our refuge and strength.

I know all of this change rocks our false sense of security and causes new chaos. Most of you are adjusting to kids home, layoffs, cutbacks and doing your job remotely or online. I want you to know that we are one body in Christ, and we need to be unified and connected more than ever. The world’s plan is to hunker down in our bunkers and take care of ourselves alone. That will never do for Christians. We are called to outlive, out love and even “out die” the world.



So, we have decided we are not going to retreat. We are going to advance. We are going to start a campaign called “Pursuing God”.

The challenge is spelled out in three

commitments. Pursuing Jesus, Pursuing His Church, and Pursuing the Lost. While the rest of the world retreats, we are calling Christ followers to advance.

PURSUING GOD CAMPAIGN

- **Pursuing Jesus** (Pursuing our spiritual growth and life)
 - 10 a.m. Livestream worship every Sunday morning
 - Weekly devotional video clips:
 - Adults (by staff), Students (by Steven), and Kids (by Tracy)
- **Pursuing His Church** (Pursuing relationships so the body is connected)
 - Join a Connect Group
 - Be a Volunteer Minister
- **Pursuing the Lost** (Pursuing the health and well-being of our neighbors)
 - Neighbor Impact Plan
 - Community Impact Plan – Sign up with Oshkosh Care & Mutual Aid

Each of these will be spelled out in more detail on the last page.



GIVING

Although you are not here, most of the expenses will continue as before. We want to tell you how you can give during this time.

1. Online giving, click this link for instructions: <https://www.rvcoshkosh.com/give/>
2. Bill Pay from your bank.
3. Mail to: RiverValley Church, 1331 High Ave., Oshkosh, WI 54901.
4. Drop it by the office M-F 9 a.m. to noon.

All giving will be considered general fund giving unless you designate it as CARE OFFERING. We anticipate growing needs within the body in the coming weeks. So, if you'd like to give extra for the needs of our people who are being cut back or losing jobs, you are welcome to do that.

Thanks for considering this.



Here's a behind the scenes glimpse of our temporary "new normal" during the week at RVC.

FROM THE ELDERS

Congregational Meeting: We all hope for a quick end to this health crisis, but we anticipate postponing our congregational meeting and approving a new budget. We will continue to function on last year's budget till we get through the worst of this pandemic.

Meetings at Church: We have decided to comply with the requests of our governing officials. As of March 17th at 5 p.m. that means no meeting of more than nine people.

Connecting People That are Not in Life Groups: The elders and staff will be calling everyone not in Life Groups. That is 366 people. We will be calling each person to see if you want to be in a Connect Group during this time. If you don't get a call, it's because we don't have your phone number. If you want to be included, please call the office or contact us on the website and give us your phone number.

Praying for You: The elders are praying for the whole roster of people who come to RVC. We wanted to pray for you by name. Almost 700 people in all.

New Members Class & Financial Peace Class

We are working to do these classes online. When we figure out how to do them, we will let you know.

COMMUNICATION

In the coming weeks we will try to communicate through three venues:

Our website - www.rvcoshkosh.com

Facebook - www.facebook.com/RVCOshkosh

Email (provided we have your email address on file)

Detailed Breakdown of Pursuing God Campaign Pursuing Jesus

(Pursuing our spiritual growth and life)

We are always responsible to grow spiritually. As last week's sermon clarified, we have a natural tendency to drift away from God so we need to keep pursuing our relationship with Jesus. We have two ways in which we are going to facilitate that.

First, every Sunday at 10 a.m. we will livestream the worship service. That means you will be able to interact with the morning as well as be part of others participating at the same time. Last week we had over 400 views. You can also watch after 10 a.m. Go to www.rvcoshkosh.com to view it.

Second, we will be providing a weekly devotion and/or suggested Bible study for you to work on during the week. We will be making them age appropriate. Tracy Fettner will be posting things for RVC | kids each week. We want them to feel connected and loved until we can get back together in person. Steven Blader will be posting for middle and high school students each week. He will also keep you informed of ways to connect as a group via "Zoom" or something like it. Adults will also be given devotions and spiritual study help.

Pursuing His Church

(Pursuing relationships so the body is connected)

This is the hour in which we need to love one another more than ever. Isolation is one of the tools our enemy uses to get us away from other believers and to feed us lies. Some of those lies cause, fear or anger towards God, or just plain confusion. We need contact. So, we are designing "Connect Groups" and asking everyone to be a part of one. If you are in a Life Group your group is your Connect Group. If you are not in a Life Group contact Pastor Wyatt to get in one (wyatt.fisher@rvcoshkosh.com). He will be assigning them as he gets requests.

What Does a Connect Group do? They connect. We ask you to do three things weekly:

- 1) Pray for the people in your Connect Group at least twice a week.
- 2) Call, text or email each member of your Connect Group at least once a week.
- 3) Watch the livestream service each Sunday and ask each other how you are applying it. Questions will be provided each week for discussion.

Bonus, we would love to have you connect with your group in person once in a while. According to Governor Evers, the numbers/restrictions do not apply to residences.

<https://evers.wi.gov/Documents/COVID19/Mass%20Gathering%20FAQ%203.17.20.pdf>

What is a Volunteer Minister? We anticipate needing volunteers to minister to people in need. We are anticipating a need for some to coordinate making food, taking food to shut-ins, sick, or kids left out by not being in school. We are anticipating the need for some care fund administrators getting people help. The Oshkosh Care and Mutual Aid ministry may need some more administrators. We may need some volunteers to go buy groceries, etc.

Pursuing the Lost (*Pursuing the health and well-being of our neighbors*) You have probably noticed that there are a lot of people who are scared, overwhelmed, and even a little agitated. We have both the love of God and an eternal hope that we walk in daily. So, we have two steps for being involved with your neighbors.

Neighbor Impact Plan: We suggest you do three things. First, find the names of all the neighbors near you, whether apartments, houses, or town homes. Once you have their names make a prayer card for each one and set aside a time to pray for them once a week. Second, we suggest that you contact them. This could be by note, e-mail, or a knock on the door and tell them you'll be praying for them and if they need something that you can help with, you will. Third, check up on them every two weeks.

Community Impact Plan: Sign up with Oshkosh Care & Mutual Aid. A number of young women in our church put this clearing house page together to

match needs with help. Check it out and see if you'd like to be a help to people in our community.

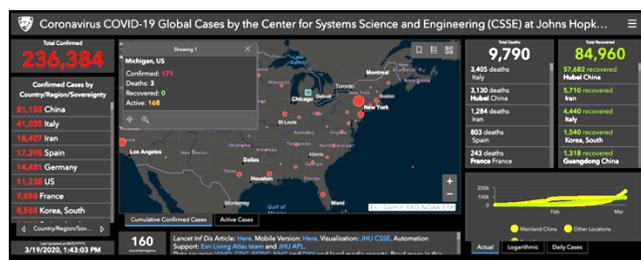
<https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSc3JnOuBRJIL8eJTOj6CWb8XaQHE5pc0ppmxwtBU1F8yCKzMg/viewform>

OUTSIDE RESOURCES ON COVID-19

Governor Evers Mass Gathering Restriction FAQ's <https://evers.wi.gov/Documents/COVID19/Mass%20Gathering%20FAQ%203.17.20.pdf>

John Hopkins Coronavirus Resource Center Map

<https://coronavirus.jhu.edu/map.html>



FROM THE CDC

Watch for Symptoms

- Fever
- Cough
- Shortness of breath

If you develop emergency warning signs for COVID-19 get medical attention immediately. Emergency warning signs include:

- Difficulty breathing or shortness of breath
- Persistent pain or pressure in the chest
- New confusion or inability to arouse
- Bluish lips or face

Take Steps to Protect Yourself and Others

- Wash your hands often
- Avoid close contact
- Stay home if you're sick
- Cover coughs and sneezes
- Clean and disinfect

“Fear not, for I am with you; be not dismayed, for I am your God; I will strengthen you, I will help you, I will uphold you with my righteous right hand.” Isaiah 41:10 ESV