



University Presbyterian Church

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Organist

Terry G. Iyasere
Day School Director

Jeff Perry
Clerk of Session

Monday, March 16, 2020

Dear ones of University Presbyterian,

I am writing to let you know that out of concern for the health and wellbeing of all those who are part of the UPC community, in order to assist in controlling the spread of COVID-19, and in hopes that our health care system might not be over wrought, the Session voted last night to temporarily suspend all (including worship) in person gatherings at or sponsored by the church. This is in effect immediately with the exception of the Day School which will be open through Thursday, March 19th so that parents and caregivers can make arrangements for the care of their children going forward. At this time the plans are for the Day School to reopen on Monday, April 13 and for in person gatherings at or sponsored by the church to resume on Wednesday, April 15. Prior to those dates the Session will reassess whether a continued suspension is warranted and of course, we will keep you posted.

This decision was made with prayerful hearts and confidence in God's providence and sustaining grace as well as in consideration of recommendations made by a number of local, state, and national entities. Church leaders are actively exploring creative means by which our ministry will continue and our community will be nurtured and supported during this suspension. This will include plans for pastoral care and engaging in shared worship, education, and service to one another and our wider community. Please keep your eye out for future emails and check the church website regularly. Those who do not have email or internet capabilities will be contacted directly. If you haven't already this is a good time to sign on to our Facebook Group (University Presbyterian Church), to our church wide communication software, at onrealm.com, and if you make your financial contributions to the church in person, to make other arrangements. If you need help with these matters please contact the church office.

Some time ago we decided to engage this Lent with the themes of wilderness. Little did we know the kind of wilderness that we would be entering together. Please remember that God has accompanied many before us in the wilderness and ours is no different. May we be made stronger, brought closer, and renewed in our faith as well as our sense of shared humanity by the journey. We are a creative and loving community, these days may very well bring out the best in us.

With my love and abiding prayers,

Patti Snyder

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