

.....
Spring River Assembly of God

March 18, 2020

Spring River Church Family,

*I will lift up my eyes to the hills. From whence comes my help? My help comes from the Lord,
Psalm 121:1 NKJV*

I was reminded of this Psalm this morning as 7-8 area pastors and I gathered together for our weekly pastor's prayer time. One of the pastors read this psalm as we prayed. I think it appropriately describes what is needed during this time as our nation and world find ourselves in the midst of the COVID-19 pandemic. We must keep our focus on the Lord as we walk through the days ahead. He is still on the throne and is the same yesterday, today and forever. As He has seen us through so many things in the past, He will see us through this too!

Our board met last night to discuss the best ways for our church to navigate through the days ahead. We agreed that we must continue to minister the Word of God, minister to the needs of people all while doing everything possible to ensure the safety and health of our people. We have been carefully monitoring the recommendations of the Center for Disease Control (CDC), Kansas Governor Kelly and President Trump. Governor Kelly, on Monday, recommended groups no larger than 50 should gather. Later that afternoon, President Trump recommended not gathering in groups larger than 10. With those increasingly lowering numbers of gathering, as well as the daily changes that have come as we are learning more about how this virus spreads, for the safety of our people, we will be making changes in the way we function as a church over the coming weeks. We believe the following changes will help us continue to function as a church as well as help protect the safety of everyone.

- 1. Sunday morning services will be online/DVD only until Easter Sunday (April 12th)**
- 2. Sunday evening services cancelled**
- 3. All Wednesday activities at the church cancelled**
- 4. Annual Business Meeting (originally scheduled for March 22) will be postponed until a later date**

Our prayer is that this schedule will be able to return to our normal schedule by **Easter Sunday, April 12th** and **Wednesday April 15th**. However, we also know with as quickly as things have changed over the past week that we may need to move that date beyond April 12th. If something changes and we are unable to meet on April 12th, we will let you know.

.....
P.O. Box 350.... 5946 SE Varck Rd. Riverton, KS 66770 (620) 848-3233
www.springriverag.com

"Where the Healing Waters Flow"

The following are some of the ways we will continue to do ministry during this time:

Sunday Morning Service

We will be videoing the morning service and making it available each Sunday morning on **Facebook** and **Youtube**. We are attempting to make each week's service as much like being in church as possible. Lori and some of the worship team will lead worship, there will be time of prayer, announcements and message.

The videos on Facebook and Youtube will be posted each week by Sunday morning, but you will be able to access them any day/time after they are posted. For **Facebook**, the video will be on the *Spring River Assembly of God* page. For **Youtube**, you can either search for "Spring River Assembly of God" on Youtube, or we will also have a link to our Youtube page on our church website, www.springriverag.com.

If you are not on Facebook, don't have a smartphone or don't have a computer to access the internet, we would be more than happy to provide you a DVD copy each week. If you would like DVDs, please call the church office and let us know.

Weekly Adult Bible Study

We will have a weekly Bible study (about 30 minutes) available each week on Wednesdays. Those will also be available on our Facebook page and Youtube. DVDs can also be made available if you let the church office know.

Children's ministry

We don't want our kids to be left out! We will put a link on our website to children's ministry material. The link will take parents/kids to North Little Rock Assemblies of God Church's kids ministry page (they gave churches permission to access this ministry) to view their children's church service. The page also has a "family devotion" link which gives parents/guardians a devotion to do with your child that goes along with that week's lesson!

Refuge Youth

We plan to do a weekly video of our youth service. We are hoping to have our youth worship band do a few songs each week and a message from Pastor Roger. The video will be in the Refuge Youth group page on Facebook and on Youtube.

If you want to stay up to date on Refuge Youth schedule/news, info will be posted in the Refuge Youth Facebook group or through text. If you are not signed up to receive Refuge texts, just text @refug3 to number 81010 to sign up.

Connecting/Care

One of the things we talk about is Connecting with God and Connecting with One Another. With the stress on "social distancing" being talked about, we will need to (for a brief time) adjust the ways for us to stay connected with one another. Pastor Roger will be contacting some of you to see if you would be willing to take a few minutes each week to contact around 5 *specific* people/families to check on them. Our desire is that each week, *each* person/family that we have contact info for will be contacted to see how they are doing and if there are any needs that we, as a church, could help with or pray for. We also encourage everyone to take a few minutes each week to call/text someone they know from church to check on them. It will be more important than ever for us to stay connected by phone, text, Facebook, email, etc., if we are not able to gather together.

We also want to make sure we can communicate with everyone as quickly as we can. With things happening in the world so quickly, we may need to get info out quicker than the mail. For those of you who **text**, if you haven't signed up to receive church texts, simply text

@springrive to number **81010** (that's not a typo, it really is @springrive without the "r" 😊). We use texting to send out prayer requests, praise reports, church activities reminders, etc. If you are on **Facebook**, search for "Spring River Assembly of God" and "like" the page. On this page we post reminders of upcoming activities, church cancellations, etc. (note, we do not post prayer requests on the Facebook page, most of those are personal, so we only send those out via text). If you need to reach Pastor Roger, you can either call the church office or his cell (316) 842-3994.

Church Office

Unless something changes with our current national situation, the church office will remain open. The church office hours are Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday 9am-12pm, 1pm-4pm.

Giving

With us not being able to gather together for at least the next 3 weeks, there is an obvious potential for there to be a financial impact on our church. Although we won't be in the building, our expenses will continue. Let me encourage you to continue to faithfully give (or start giving) to support the continued ministry of Spring River Assembly. Our current monthly income needed to cover our average monthly operating expenses is **\$13,000**. Our board each month reviews the finances and are always looking for ways we can make the most efficient use of our resources and will continue to do that especially in the moment that we are living in. I'm sure you can appreciate that your faithful and generous support will be perhaps more important than ever in these challenging weeks ahead. Let me also remind you that we have missionaries around the world that we have committed to support each month. So, if you have been giving to missions, please continue your monthly support. Our missionaries are also being affected by these world events, and depend on the faithfulness of churches like ours to continue their ministry. Thank you for your investment into the ministry of Spring River Assembly of God!

There are 3 ways you can give: **mail, online, drop off at church during office hours.**
Mail: Checks can be made out to: Spring River Assembly of God; if your giving amount needs to be split into different categories (missions, youth, etc.), please make a note of the category and amount in the memo (Example: Tithe -\$100; Missions - \$50). Put check in an envelope and mail to Spring River Assembly of God, P.O. Box 350, Riverton, KS 66770. **Giving online:** go to our website, www.springriverag.com, click on the "giving" tab and follow the instructions. Giving online will allow you to give to different categories. **Drop off by the church:** you can also come by the church during office hours: Monday, Tuesday, Thursday or Friday 9am-12pm, 1pm-4pm.

We are living in exciting times! Many around us see a world which seems to be changing by the hour. They are finding it hard to hold onto something that is immovable and secure. As a believer in Christ and part of His church, we are able to stand on something that is immovable and secure. As the old song says: *On Christ the solid rock I stand, all other ground is sinking sand.* We have a great opportunity to point those around us to the solid rock of Jesus Christ. God IS going to see us through the days ahead! Let each of us help do our part to not only grow personally in our faith and stay connected to our church family, but also to seize opportunities to offer the world around us the hope they can also find in the solid rock of Jesus Christ!

Blessings!

Pastor Roger