

March 22, 2020

Welcome to the Dispatch Christian Reformed Church with Pastor Steve Boersma.

Congregation of Dispatch:

On behalf of the Council, I want to inform you that in response to the current Covid-19 threat that exists and recommendations and actions being taken at our national, state, and local levels, we have decided to cancel all weekly activities and church services scheduled for this weekend the 22nd, and also March 29th. We will revisit our status locally following March 29th and keep you informed of any changes or updates at that time. We are told that the next few weeks are crucial to beating this virus and that all of us have a role in this battle. A number of churches in the denomination are also taking this course of action for the time being for the safety and health of all as mentioned on the crcna website. For a few suggestions of worship experiences online this weekend--you can visit the Calvary CRC, Orange City, Iowa live stream at calvaryorangecity.com or brooksidecrc.org located in Grand Rapids. There are also messages from past weeks available on the dispatchcrc.org page. Should you have any questions regarding any of this, please feel free to contact myself or one of the other council members. Thank you for your understanding and cooperation in this matter. Sincerely, Don Koops

The rest of the Lenten Lunch series, sponsored by the Downs Ministerial Association, is cancelled for the rest of the season.

The Boersmas will return to Dispatch Monday, March 23, after their one-week vacation. Pastor Steve will be available for calls on Tuesday. Until then, please contact an elder if you have any concerns that need to be addressed. In case of emergency, Pastor Steve may be reached at 785-412-0026.

The 2020 Heart Choices Banquet has been cancelled in accordance with the CDC recommendation that there be no gatherings over 50 people. We hope to be able to reschedule at a later time. Please watch for updates regarding adjustments to Center operations as we determine how to best serve our clients during this time of uncertainty.

The Education Committee is looking for one or two volunteers to coordinate our VBS program this year. Please pray about this opportunity and contact Pastor Steve or Marion/Melanie Schlatter if you are interested.

From Back to God Ministries International

GROUNDWORK: I BELIEVE IN GOD, THE CREATOR - Why can we trust God when bad things happen? Study Psalm 19:1-6, Job 28:34-41, and Psalm 104:27-30 with Groundwork to discover why we can believe in the creator God and his providence, and why this belief gives us comfort. Listen now at GroundworkOnline.com and subscribe to Groundwork's weekly emails for future episodes.

PURLOINED PIE - Check out our children's programs at www.kidscorner.net. In this week's episode, "Purloined Pie," pie baking for the Terrene Pies R Round Festival is interrupted when someone steals one of the pies. Liz and Lucille are reminded that stealing is a sin. Listen now at kidscorner.net and subscribe to KC's weekly emails for future episodes. Download this month's Kid Corner Easter puzzle and game giveaway The Bible Challenge Activity Book Five. kidscorner.net/activities.

From Faith Formation Ministries

Lent At-home Faith Formation Tip - As Holy Week nears, create a worship space—a table or corner of a room where you can be intentional about spending time with God this week. For now, decorate it with purple or black cloth, a cross, and other symbols. Then on Easter morning, decorate this space with flowers, butterflies, white and gold cloth, etc. Talk with kids about what these symbols mean. This space can continue as a worship area even after Easter is finished. (Tip from Faith Formation Ministries; crcna.org/FaithFormation)

From World Renew

Join the Team at Renew! - Compelled by God's deep passion for justice and mercy, we join communities around the world to renew hope, reconcile lives, and restore creation. If you are passionate about this mission and want to join our team, check out the following career opportunities: Project Coordinator International Disaster Response, based in Burlington, ON; Program Consultant - Tanzania; and Mid-level Development Officer, based in Burlington, ON. See worldrenew.net/careers for more details about these opportunities and the links to apply.