



Dear EPC Family and Friends ~

On Tuesday evening, March 17, Session met to consider our current *Measures of Care* in light of the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic and unanimously voted to suspend in-person worship for the next two weeks (Sundays March 22 & March 29) as well as Sunday school classes. Online worship is being developed both for Lenten Vespers at West and regular Sunday Morning Worship. We plan to post those services on the church website – www.emporiapresbyterianchurch.org – and link to those services through our Facebook page -- www.facebook.com/EmporiaPresbyterianChurch/ -- as well as in regular emails to the congregation.

The Session will meet again on Monday, March 30, to review and assess the evolving situation concerning COVID-19 and decide whether to continue worshipping online or to resume worshipping in-person. We will strive to be in regular communication with our church family about all decisions.

Please note that the church is not closing. The church office is open regular hours, though we ask that you call the office first before dropping by to help limit in-person contact. Pastor Phyl is available by phone, email, and in-person for emergency needs (again, please call first) and is praying for your well-being as she always does. The Session also holds each of you in prayer, as we always do. Only our worship services are moving online for the next two weeks.

Elders will be calling each member of the EPC family over the next few days to update you on these changes, and we'll continue to be in touch with further updates about worship services. Please do not hesitate to reach out to your Session elders or Pastor Phyl during this time with questions, concerns, or needs. For instance, if you feel uncomfortable getting out to get groceries, let us know, and we can connect you with a church member who has volunteered to help make deliveries as they can. Also, do keep us all in your prayers.

As we shared before, Session elders have made these decisions with prayerful discernment and faithful hope that these steps can provide the best care for our church family and friends needed during this time. Please continue to be in touch with us and each other, and together we can all feel a bit less isolated in these uncertain times. Take care, and remember:

*Be strong and courageous; do not be frightened or dismayed,
for the LORD your God is with you wherever you go.*

~Joshua 1:9

*Shalom,
Emporia Presbyterian Church Session*

