

Friday, March 13, 2020



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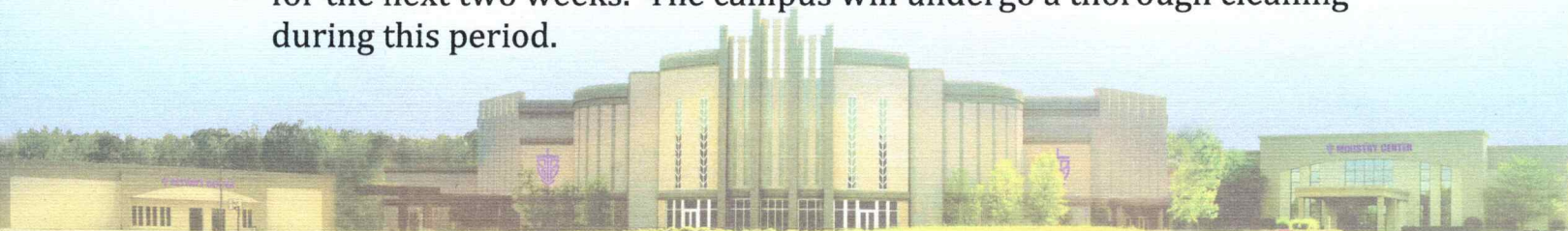
Dear Springfield Family,

From the tribe of Issachar, there were 200 leaders of the tribe with their relatives. All these men understood the signs of the times and knew the best course for Israel to take. 1 Chronicles 12:32

Please know that I take seriously the responsibility of being your pastor. The viral threat of COVID-19 is imminent and as people of faith we must be prepared. Virtually every large crowd event throughout the nation has been cancelled as a result of the pervasive transmission of the virus. Unfortunately, our nation has lagged behind other industrialized countries in the critical area of wide spread testing. On Thursday, March 12th, the Director of the Georgia Department of Public Health reported that our state only has the capacity to test 50 people per day. Next week they hope to only double that capacity. As a result of the 14 day incubation period and the administrative delay in testing, churches are left to make critical decisions about gathering for worship services.

Governor Kemp confirmed that a small church is at the epicenter of an outbreak in Bartow County, GA, proving that containment will not be achieved until we begin to see wide spread testing. Toward that end, I and the Springfield Board of Directors have proactively decided to guard the health of all who frequent the Springfield campus by implementing the following steps.

1. For the next three Sundays (March 15th, March 22nd and March 29th), we will worship at 10:00 AM **online only**. You may stream services live at www.sbcgrowth.church or Facebook Live. Bible Study on Wednesdays (March 18th and March 25th) will stream live as well at 7:00 PM. Children's Services (Children's Curriculum available on Realm) and Teen Church will not take place as the campus will be closed.
2. The Springfield Christian Academy will be closed for the next two weeks (March 16th through March 27th).
3. All ministry activities beyond Worship and Bible Study will be cancelled for the next two weeks. The campus will undergo a thorough cleaning during this period.



It is critical that we have your spiritual, financial and digital support over the next 16 days. After March 30th, we will assess our nation's progress in managing this pandemic. Meanwhile here are three things you can do to help your church to advance the cause of Christ during this challenging season.

1. **PRAY** -2 Chronicles 7:14 - Lead your family in the Lenten daily readings (Available on Realm) with other Christians and pray three times daily 6 AM, 12 Noon and 6 PM. To rise to this occasion we need the power of prayer.
2. **GIVE** - Become an online giver. If you are an online giver become a recurring giver. Please support us as we take this unprecedented step to be faithful and responsible with our church and community's health. Tithes & Offering can be mailed to Springfield Baptist Church, P.O. Box 80307, Conyers, GA 30013. Tithes & Offerings can also be dropped off in the mail slot through the Church Office door.
3. **STAY CONNECTED** - Please call each other and stay in touch with the church. Do not allow social distancing to devolve into isolation or disconnection.

I am praying for you and your family. Look to www.cdc.gov for your common sense hygiene practices to secure your family's health. Please look to all of our social media platforms for updates and any changes in the schedule. I love you and I hope to worship with you online this Sunday at 10:00 AM.

Yours in Christ,



Eric. W. Lee, D.Min., Senior Pastor