

Dear Winnetka Bible Church Family,

Be encouraged! God is good, all the time! Though we are separated, God is still at work!! And if God is for us, who can be against us? I'm writing this brief update on behalf of the WBC Elder Board to encourage you and to let you know that even though we are separated by a stay-at-home order, much is happening behind the scenes. Here are a few items to take note of:

### **Online Worship Team**

We are blessed to have a talented and flexible team at WBC. Over the past few weeks, Crandell Hemphill, Mike Johnson and the entire worship team have learned an entirely new way of leading worship, and our teaching team, including Keith, Harry and Rohan, have all needed to adjust to working with a camera and connecting with us in our homes. If you have been blessed by the services over the past few weeks, please be sure to let one of them know. I'm sure they would be encouraged by a note, card or even a text!

### **WBC Reopening Plans**

As states across the country begin to formulate plans to reopen their respective communities, we are carefully and prayerfully considering the best way and the best time to re-start our activities at WBC. While nothing is definite at this point, we are reviewing the situation and hope to announce an incremental opening plan, consistent with the guidance we are receiving from our government and medical experts.

### **Giving Update**

For those of you who have been able to give during this time of unexpected change, thank you for your generous and faithful support. Although our giving has dropped about 40% over the last few weeks, many of you have continued to give faithfully during this time. If you are able to give, please remember that you can continue to do so:

- **By Mail:** Send a check to Winnetka Bible Church at **555 Birch Street, Winnetka, IL 60093**
- **Online:** Set up a one time or recurring gift at the WBC website: [www.wbc.org](http://www.wbc.org) (go to Resources/Give). You can also click here: <https://onrealm.org/winnetkabible/-/give/now>

### **Pastoral Search Teams**

As of this week, both our Senior Pastor and Associate Pastor Search teams are meeting and moving forward. In fact, our Associate Pastor search has been interviewing several candidates via video conference and is tracking towards their original summer timeline. We are working with both pastoral search teams to bring you an update soon. Thanks to all the search team members for their hard work and flexibility to keep these efforts moving forward!

### **Doyle Family Transition**

As you are likely aware, Pastor Keith has accepted a new position at Calvary Bible Church and will be moving with his family to Neenah, Wisconsin. Over the next few weeks, Keith will be transitioning his duties at WBC to our interim Senior Pastor, Dr. Harry Shields. Though Keith will continue to be involved at WBC through the end of May, he has already begun the transition process.

Many of you have asked about how you can say goodbye and encourage the Doyle family as they wrap up their time with us. Here are a few ways you can demonstrate your love and appreciation for them:

1. **Send a personal card or letter:** Please consider writing a personal note to say thank you and share how Keith, Kerry, Kristen, Kailyn and Karissa have had an impact on you. *Please send your cards, letters, pictures, etc. during the first two weeks of May.* The Doyle's address is 877 Elm Street, Winnetka, IL 60093

2. **Consider sending a financial gift:** We will be taking a love offering on May 3rd and May 10th to bless the Doyles with a thank you gift for their many years of service at WBC. You can give online on the WBC website at <https://onrealm.org/winnetkabible/-/give/now> (please select Love Offering-Doyles from the drop down menu) or send your love gift to the church (write "Doyle Love Offering" in the memo field).

3. **Plan to attend our summer celebration for the Doyles:** Given the current situation, we are planning to invite the Doyles back to WBC during the summer to say a proper goodbye. Dates and details will be announced in the near future.

Let's join together to bless the Doyles and let them know how much they mean to us. If you have any questions or further suggestions for how we might say goodbye, please feel free to contact me, or any of the WBC Elders.

In the meantime, let's continue to worship the Lord together in our homes and to connect with one another via phone, video conference or in whatever way we can. And, let's remember that our loving Heavenly Father cares for and protects His children:

*"Because he has set his love upon Me, therefore I will deliver him;*

*I will set him on high, because he has known My name.*

*He shall call upon Me, and I will answer him;*

*I will be with him in trouble;*

*I will deliver him and honor him.*

*With long life I will satisfy him,*

*And show him My salvation." (Ps 91:14-16, NKJV)*

Heavenly blessings to each and all of you!

**Louis Kolssak**  
WBC Elder Board