



WINNETKA
BIBLE
CHURCH

For God has not given us a spirit of fear, but of power and of love and of a sound mind.

- The Apostle Paul to Timothy (2 Tim 1:7, NKJV)

Dear Winnetka Bible Church (WBC) Family,

This has been an unprecedented week. From travel bans to school closings and stock market volatility, I can't remember anything like we've seen in the last few days. You are undoubtedly concerned, like most Americans, about the Coronavirus, and how it is impacting our lives both globally and locally. We want you to know that the WBC leadership team has been monitoring the situation closely and taking this issue very seriously.

We believe, based on Scripture, that we should not be overcome with fear and that we should seek opportunities to pray together, encourage each other, and remain steadfast in the study of the Word together. Based on the current situation, **here is what will remain the same:**

- **All services will take place as planned on Sundays.** This includes the Worship Service, Adult Discipleship Seminar, and Sunday Youth and Children's ministries.
- **All ministries during the week will take place as planned.** This includes Mother's Together, What the Bible is All About, Prayer Meeting, etc. The one exception to this is Awana. They will be off for spring break over the next two weeks and will resume on Wednesday, April 1st.
- **The Youth Lock-In and Missions weekend events will continue as planned** (all health practices and precautions apply, as noted below).
- **The WBC Office will remain open** with regular office hours.
- If you have a question regarding a specific ministry, please contact the ministry leader directly.

New Healthy Practices

As an added precaution, we are committing to the following healthy practices whenever we gather, either on Sunday or during the week:

- Sanitizing all gathering areas prior to and following each service
- Following safe food handling practices whenever food is served
- Providing suggestions for greeting one another
- Making a few procedural changes to how we serve communion (which you may have seen last week)

If you feel sick, are already at-risk, or are uncomfortable attending services at the present time, we encourage you to remain at home. In addition, if you are one of our "senior saints" or have an illness or condition that puts you at risk, we encourage you to stay at home for the time being. For those who would like to access our services online, sermon audio will be available on the Monday following each service through our website (wbc.org) or your preferred podcast platform.

How You Can Help

Most importantly, each of you can play a part in protecting our time together by following

individual healthy practices. Please instruct your family members to do their part by following good personal habits such as those outlined by the Center for Disease Control at www.cdc.gov.

- Wash your hands often. Scrub with soap and water for at least 20 seconds, especially after blowing your nose, coughing, or sneezing, as well as after going to the bathroom and before eating.
- If soap and water are not readily available, use an alcohol-based hand-sanitizer with at least 60% alcohol.
- If you need to cough or sneeze, cover yourself with a tissue, then throw the tissue in the trash.
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose, and mouth.
- Avoid close contact with people who are sick.
- Clean and disinfect frequently touched objects and surfaces using a regular household cleaning spray or wipe.

As we walk together through this time of crisis and uncertainty, let's commit to being a people of prayer. Let's pray together that the spread of the virus will cease. Let's pray for healing for those who are currently infected. Let's pray for protection for our community, our church, and our individual health and safety. Let us also be wise, exercising sound judgment and taking the necessary precautions to lovingly protect each other whenever we gather together.

Let us take comfort that God hears us, strengthens us, and grants us power, love and a sound mind at all times, but especially when we need it. We will continue to monitor the situation and update the congregation as needed in the future.

In His Goodness and His Sovereignty,

Keith Doyle, Senior Pastor

Louis Kolssak, Elder Board Chair

Be anxious for nothing, but in everything by prayer and supplication, with thanksgiving, let your requests be made known to God; and the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus.

- Phil 4:6-7, NKJV