



Wednesday, March 11, 2020

At Meredith Drive Reformed Church, we want to care for our congregation in all respects, including the physical well-being of our community. We are aware of concerns around the world, the U.S., and Iowa of the growing cases of the Coronavirus (COVID-19). According to the Iowa Department of Public Health, as of this writing, there are no known cases in Polk County.

We are contacting our entire congregation to let you know we are aware and monitoring the recommendations from both the Iowa Department of Public Health and the CDC on best practices for faith-based organizations. There is no need to worry or panic.

As the Gospel of John says, "*The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it*" —John 1:5. May our church be a beacon of Christ's light piercing the darkness of rumor and fear. May we act in a way that protects others as well as ourselves. May COVID-19 be an opportunity for the gospel to be made known.

You may notice a few procedures we will implement this week to address concerns some may have regarding hand-to-hand contact:

- Our greeters will not shake your hand upon entering the building.
- We will have collection baskets placed in the worship area that you may drop off your offering either before or after service. We also encourage you to start offering online. There are two ways to give online:
  1. Go to <http://www.meredithdrive.org/account> and click on your campus link to give.
  2. (Meredith Drive worshippers) can text MDRC to 77977 or (The Bridge worshippers) can text MDRCBRIDGE to 77977, and you will receive a link to our custom giving site.

**We also ask that you take recommended precautions to keep yourself and others healthy, by using everyday safeguards to reduce the risk of all viruses, including COVID-19.**

- Wash your hands frequently.
- Cover coughs and sneezes with a tissue and throw the tissue away.
- Avoid touching your face.
- Avoid hand-to-hand contact.
- Stay home if you are ill.
- Routinely clean frequently touched surfaces.

One Congregation in Two Locations

Meredith Drive campus 5128 Meredith Drive | Des Moines, IA 50310 | (515) 276-4901  
The Bridge campus 10025 NW 62nd Avenue | Johnston, IA 50131 | (515) 986-5867

[meredithdrive.org](http://meredithdrive.org)

If you think you may be ill, please stay home for your health and the health of those around you. If you find that you are unable to attend worship services on Sunday, but would like to hear the sermon, our Sunday sermons at both campuses are always available online at [http://www.meredithdrive.org/sermons\\_podcasts](http://www.meredithdrive.org/sermons_podcasts) in video and podcast format by 2:00 PM on the Monday following the sermon.

*While we cannot control the virus, the spread, or the impact it may have on our church, we're doing everything we can to make our campuses as safe and clean as possible. Pray for those impacted by the virus, as well as their families and loved ones. We must also remember that God has not called us to live in fear but in faith. "For the Spirit of God does not make us timid, but gives us power, love, and self-discipline." — 2 Timothy 1:7*

Blessings and health,  
Meredith Drive Reformed Church

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