

PASTORAL LETTER ON THE CORONAVIRUS PANDEMIC

“God has not given us a spirit of fear, but of power, love, and a sound mind.” – 2 Timothy 1:7.

“Some trust in chariots and some in horses, but we trust in the name of the LORD our God.” – Psalm 20:7

“You keep him in perfect peace whose mind is stayed on you, because he trusts in you.” Isaiah 26:3

As believers in Jesus we don't need to be afraid and anxious with the Coronavirus Pandemic changing life all around us. God is still on His throne – “But the LORD is in His holy temple, let all the earth be silent before Him.” – Habakkuk 2:20. God is sovereign and in control of all things, just like He has always been since He created the world. God is not surprised by anything, not even Coronavirus. But this is not to minimize the seriousness of this virus threat. We are called to be prudent and also submit to governing authorities – Romans 13:1 – *“Let every person be subject to the governing authorities. For there is no authority except from God, and those that exist have been instituted by God.”* Because the government is forbidding groups over 50, we are therefore having no church service this week (and maybe for several weeks?). But I encourage you to gather with your families, read the Bible together, pray, and sing together. Perhaps gather with extended family or other church attenders in your homes.

In the midst of continual news of the coronavirus, I want to remind you of some precious truths: (perhaps you can look these verse up together with your family!)

Our God is still Sovereign and seated on His Throne – Psalm 115:3; Daniel 4:34,35; Romans 11:3-36; Revelation 19:6.

Our hope is still sure and living because Jesus Christ is living – 1 Peter 1:3-9.

Our security and shelter is always in the Lord. It is not in hoarding the things of this world or financial safety – Matthew 6:19-21. Don't worry or be anxious – Matthew 6:25-34.

Our anchor is still the gospel of Jesus Christ – Hebrews 6:19,20.

Our mission is still the gospel of Jesus Christ – Matthew 28:18-20.

We are called to love God and love people – Matthew 22:37-40. Let us be willing to share with those in need around us. If you have a special need, please let us know so we can try to help you in the love of Jesus. If you extra supplies, please let us know if you are willing to share resources – 1 John 3:16-18.

We may post other updates or a prayer list at our website: country-christian.org

Check also our Facebook account at Colleen Patrick Clarey

You can contact me at home at (269)321-0132 or on my cell (269)626-4531. On line at clarey7@sbcglobal.net

Please note also: There are plenty of good websites you can go to for encouragement in the Word and articles on the Christian's response to Coronavirus including: The Gospel Coalition; Crossway; Ligonier Ministries; and the EFCA website. Jesus is Lord and Reigns over all, Pastor Pat