



Church of the Redeemer

eBlast

March 26 2020



COME AND GET IT!

We had to get creative with this month's Community Supper. The Rotary still sponsored this event and we are taking every precaution to make sure volunteers stay six feet apart and our guests are served take out in our parking lot. Need to get out yourself? Stop by for a delicious take out meal of pork loin, mashed potatoes and salad.

Worship via livestreaming continues:

Please join us for Noon Day Prayer on Wednesday at 12:05; and the Liturgy of the Word Saturday at 5:15 p.m. and Sunday morning at 11:00 a.m.

You can join us by control clicking here:

<https://www.redeemersayre.org/> or here:

<https://www.facebook.com/redeemersayre/>

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CALL FROM BISHOP KEVIN: SUSPEND WORSHIP THROUGH EASTER

Dear people of God,

After careful consideration of the advice given by government and healthcare professionals, as well as [Presiding Bishop Michael Curry](#) and other local bishops and faith leaders, I am compelled to call upon all churches in the diocese to continue to suspend in-person gatherings of any size, including worship, through Holy Week and Easter at the earliest (April 12, 2020).

Holy Week and Easter are central to our Christian faith. To not gather to commemorate Christ's triumphant entrance into Jerusalem, the last supper where he instituted the sacrament of his Body and Blood, his condemnation and tragic death on the cross, and his conquering of death and rising to new life-this will be an immense sacrifice. However, it also offers us an opportunity to reimagine how we "do church," to expand the various ways we can gather together, even as we are physically separated. Sadly, we must remain physically distant from one another now, as it is distance that minimizes the risk of illness and helps to preserve, not only our own health, but especially the health of the most vulnerable in our communities.

Rest assured that this distance need not lead to isolation and loneliness. Our diocese is working to offer online worship and faith-sharing opportunities so that we might remain connected, and can continue to pray, worship, and learn together-to laugh, cry, and be joyful together-even if that means we must re-think what it means to be "together" in these times. I encourage you to [check our website](#) frequently to stay up-to-date with worship and other opportunities that are being offered throughout the diocese. I also encourage you to reach out in love to others who may be struggling, and to reach out for help when you are struggling yourself.

I will continue to send regular messages and be in touch with clergy and other leaders in the diocese. Know of my prayers for each and every one of you, and my confidence that we will emerge from this time of sacrifice with deepened love for one another, and for Christ who died for us, and rose again.

In God's love,

+Kevin

Bishop of Bethlehem

CHURCH OF THE REDEEMER FINDS NEW WAYS FORWARD

In obedience to Bishop Kevin's order, Church of the Redeemer will be closed through April 13th. Our Parish Administrator is working from home, doing what she can to continue our parish operations. Our treasurer, Bruce Carpenter is making sure our bills get paid. Our Senior Warden is being creative with the Community Supper. Our able Sunday School team is putting together a mailing for all our Sunday School children. The Vestry is calling our active parishioners just to say hello. Our Lenten Book Group keeps trying to meet on ZOOM with varying degrees of success. We are seeking ways to stay connected.

Pastor Melinda is in the office Monday through Thursday, planning for worship and taking care of administrative tasks that need to occur in the office. There will be Holy Week worship and Easter worship, just not how we are accustomed to worshipping together. Watch this space for details next week. Melinda is more than happy to come to your home to provide communion. Call the parish office or her cell phone to arrange a time. She only asks that any gathering have not more than 10 people present.

A 7-DAY CORONAVIRUS PRAYER GUIDE



PRAY FOR THE SICK

Pray for those who are sick, and their families, that the Lord would heal and comfort them.

PRAY FOR HEALTHCARE WORKERS

Pray for those on the frontlines treating those who are sick, that the Lord would protect and strengthen them.



PRAY FOR THE VULNERABLE

Pray for those who are especially vulnerable to disease, that the sickness would pass over them and that they would rely on others for help.

PRAY FOR THE UNEMPLOYED

Pray for those who have lost work, that God would provide through their families and communities.



PRAY FOR OUR LEADERS

Pray for national and local government leaders, that they would have wisdom to do what is best for all.

PRAY FOR STUDENTS & FAMILIES

Pray for students who are out of school, and their families, that the Lord would give them patience and discipline.



PRAY FOR CHURCHES

Pray for churches and ministry leaders, that they would know how to best show the love of Christ in this time.

"Peace I leave with you. My peace I give to you. I do not give as the world gives. Don't let your heart be troubled or fearful."

JOHN 14:27



Makenzie Morrow 27
Daye Moreno 30



Episcopal Relief & Development Responds to the COVID-19 Pandemic Web Statement March 24, 2020

Episcopal Relief & Development is taking steps to ensure the health and safety of all employees, partners and program participants in response to the novel coronavirus pandemic (COVID-19). Our team is creating resources for partners to enable them to continue to serve their communities during this time, and we are also adjusting programming to allow for physical distancing recommended by health officials. We recognize that the COVID-19 pandemic is ongoing and fluid and has created challenges for partners, individuals and communities in the United States and around the world, and we remain committed to supporting program partners in their work to serve vulnerable communities.

In support of the recommendations by local, state and federal authorities, and to protect the health of employees, we have responded in the following ways:

- Canceling or postponing all domestic and international travel until May 15, 2020.
- Closing the New York City office out of an abundance of caution as of March 18, 2020.
- Closing the Ghana regional office on March 23, 2020.
- Setting up systems and protocols for all employees to telecommute.

While Episcopal Relief & Development staff may not be in the office, our team is continuing to work remotely to support program partners both domestically in the United States and around the world.

The US Disaster Program is responding to the pandemic by equipping Episcopal dioceses, congregations and individuals to know the facts, combat fear, and continue to offer worship, resources and services to the most vulnerable in ways that minimize risk and maintain safety. We have created resources for a [faith-based response to epidemics](#), including [Bible studies](#) and ongoing weekly [webinars](#) to help address the challenges created by the virus and the physical distancing that is recommended by health experts.

Episcopal Relief & Development is also in contact with both domestic and international partners to provide support as partners respond to the virus and adjust existing programming. For the safety of staff, partners and program participants, our teams are reevaluating how to safely conduct programs while still achieving measurable results. Many current programs depend on

in-person contact and have developed protocols to provide the physical distancing needed at this time.

The [COVID-19 Pandemic Response Fund](#) was established to enable the organization to continue to respond to the pandemic. Donations to this fund support the creation of additional critical resources to help local communities both immediately and in the long run, and will ensure the most up-to-date and accurate information about the disease is shared through ongoing trainings on personal and community preparedness as the crisis evolves. This fund will also support partners as they respond to the needs of high-risk communities who are most vulnerable to COVID-19.

“During this time of uncertainty, Episcopal Relief & Development remains committed to caring for our staff and partners,” said Robert W. Radtke, President & CEO, Episcopal Relief & Development. “We will continue to adapt and respond to meet the needs of the most vulnerable throughout the COVID-19 pandemic.” For additional resources and tools for a faith-based response to epidemics, click [here](#). Donations to the COVID-19 Pandemic Response Fund to support our response can be made [online](#) or through the mail to Episcopal Relief & Development, Attn: Katie Heiston, PO Box 7058, Merrifield, VA 22116-7058, where it will be processed by our mail house.

For over 75 years, Episcopal Relief & Development has been working together with supporters and partners for lasting change around the world. Each year the organization facilitates healthier, more fulfilling lives for more than 3 million people struggling with hunger, poverty, disaster and disease. Inspired by Jesus’ words in Matthew 25, Episcopal Relief & Development leverages the expertise and resources of Anglican and other partners to deliver measurable and sustainable change in three signature program areas: Women, Children and Climate.