

Dear First Broad Street family,

The Apostle Paul reminded Timothy that “*God has not given us the spirit of fear...*” (II Timothy 1:7), and that has been a truth to which I have been clinging as I have watched the spread of the Coronavirus. The air is filled with dread, and now with disappointment as cruises, athletic events and Spring Break trips are cancelled. I refuse to give in to fear....but I am a realist.

What is real is that the virus has not yet peaked. What is real is that it is an air-borne virus for which we have no cure at this time. What is real is that it is now in our region. What is real is that we need to take some precautions and make changes, regardless of how inconvenient that might be. What is real is that this virus has led First Broad Street to suspend many of our activities for the next few weeks.

Such a step saddens me very much; however, what is also real is that God is still with us, and God will still be at work even amidst this pandemic. So I encourage you to take all the steps you can to minimize your exposure (especially if you are in one of the “high risk” categories.) Keep connected with one another through phone calls, emails, texts, chats, and notes. Pray for a breakthrough in research and for those who are or will become ill with the coronavirus. Put a greater emphasis on the spiritual disciplines of Bible study, prayer, fasting and journaling during this time when many of our activities have been suspended.

We will keep you updated if additional changes in scheduling are needed. In the meantime...we overcome our worst fears with the knowledge that God is greater than any challenge (Coronavirus included) that we will ever face. Knowing that, my fear gives way to peace.

In Him,

Randy