



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

GRACE COVENANT CHURCH OF SOUTH SAN FRANCISCO TO SUSPEND GATHERINGS THROUGH MARCH 31ST *A Letter from Pastor Bearett Wolverton in response to COVID-19*

March 13, 2020

Dear church family and community,

In consideration of the public health declaration on COVID-19 by the World Health Organization (WHO), the State of California and our local health authorities along with our care and concern for you and our community, the leadership team of Grace Covenant Church has made the difficult decision to **suspend ALL church gatherings through March 31st**. Our normally scheduled 10am Sunday morning gatherings will be live-streamed through Facebook Live.

This was a decision that was not an easy one to make. As Christ-followers, we want to live in such a way that we can express our faith without reservation and live without fear. While this is true and should be done, we also know we are called by God to live with wisdom as well. The decision to suspend our church gatherings for 3 weeks was a decision that was made after much time in prayer and through wisdom. This decision allows us to prioritize the health of our church members and surrounding community during the midst of this unprecedented and unpredictable global pandemic.

I want to remind you of a reality that we confess together as Christians. We are the body of Christ all the time. We belong to God and to each other no matter how we choose to gather or organize. Jesus said that He would build His church and that the gates of hell could never stand against it!

As a church WE WILL continue to be a light in South City!

As a church WE WILL continue to meet regularly (though virtually temporarily)!

As a church WE WILL continue to LOVE our neighbors and community!

As your pastor I WILL continue to serve you and keep you updated on this situation as it continues to unfold. Take a moment to read through our 'Precautionary Measures' below to get a better understanding of our actions for safety. Please do not hesitate to contact the church office at gracecovoffice@gmail.com should you need anything. **CLICK HERE** to make sure you are subscribed to our email newsletter to receive our latest updates!

With much love for you all,

Bearett Wolverton, Lead Pastor
Grace Covenant Church

GRACE COVENANT CHURCH PRECAUTIONARY MEASURES (As of 3/13/2020)

Sunday Mornings

While we will not be meeting together physically on Sunday mornings (March 15th, 22nd and 29th), we will still be providing a worship experience for you and your family via livestream. **The Sunday worship gathering will be held on Sunday mornings at 10am through Facebook Live.** If you are a Facebook user, you can watch the service and interact through the comments section with others. If you are not a Facebook user, these services will be made available to you later in the day via email and the church website. I encourage you to use this time to watch the service together with your family and close friends in small groups. The sermons will be appropriate for all ages so children can participate. We will also email discussion questions for you and your family to process together after the Sunday morning live-streaming experiences.

Giving and Stewardship

Many churches experience a significant drop in giving when physical attendance is low. This can negatively impact our ministry. **Would you please consider remaining faithful to our joint commitment to giving despite our campus closures?** We are grateful for the generosity of so many in our community. Every contribution of the body of Christ makes a difference!

You can click here to give online or **TEXT** any dollar amount to **84321**

Additionally, you can still bring your cash or check offerings to the church during the week and drop them in the mail slot located in the front of the building. You can also mail them to **740 Del Monte Ave., So. San Francisco, CA 94080**. The mailbox will be checked every night and the offerings counted weekly by our designated counters.

Tuesday Bible Study/Student Ministries/Extra-Curricular Events

These ministries will cease to meet through the end of March. Please keep an eye out for our email newsletter to see the latest updates on our events and ministry meetings.

REMODEL2020

We are still committed to completing our pre-Easter remodeling projects on schedule. We will still be scheduling work evenings to paint and work on the church building in preparation for Easter weekend. These work groups will consist of less than 10 people and volunteers must be in good health to participate. If you are interested in helping please email the church office at **gracecovoffice@gmail.com** to let us know.

Second Harvest Food Bank

Our partnership with Second Harvest Food Bank of Silicon Valley remains an essential element of our local outreach ministry and we will continue to open our doors for food setup and distribution on April 3rd and 4th. More details will follow regarding this.