



# Christ Lutheran Church & Preschool

March 17, 2020

Dear Church, Dear Families,

The Executive Team at Christ Lutheran Church understands that the COVID-19 virus is causing deep concern in our nation and our world. The Federal Government, the CDC, Governor of South Carolina, Bishop Eaton and Bishop Yoos have published messages urging caution and conservative action during this uncertain time. The Executive Team met today to prayerfully consider our response here on Hilton Head Island. In order to ensure our congregation's safety and wellbeing, we have decided to proactively suspend ALL worship services and use of Christ Lutheran Church Buildings until further notice.

We are communicating this information via email, US mail and selected phone calls.

Here are details of the Executive Team discussion:

- All Worship services, including Wednesday Lenten Suppers and Holden Evening Prayer Services are cancelled indefinitely.
- All CLC buildings and the church office will be closed indefinitely.
- All meetings scheduled by community groups are cancelled.
- All CLC sanctioned events that occur off campus are cancelled.
- All Christ Lutheran staff will be paid during this period.
- We are considering the opportunity to gather for worship on Easter Sunday. As soon as plans have been finalized, we will communicate those plans to you.
- In accordance with direction from the South Carolina Governor's office and Superintendent of Schools, Christ Lutheran Preschool is closed until March 31. We will continue to act as directed by those authorities.
- All Preschool personnel will be paid during this furlough.

As we live through this time of crises, prayer becomes a lifeline. Monday morning prayer sessions will continue to be held at 9:30am outside on the CLC campus lawn. If you wish to attend this prayer gathering, please bring your own lawn or beach chair.

The South Carolina Synod will present a morning devotion and prayer at

10:00am on Facebook everyday beginning today, March 17. Please go to [facebook.com/scsynod](https://facebook.com/scsynod) and look for the daily post.

While we are "sheltering in place," there are things we can do to help others:

- Make phone calls to your friends and neighbors who may need assistance. Offer to bring them food or supplies.
- Write cards to people whom you know could use words of encouragement.
- Donate to Christ Lutheran Church by US Mail, or online at our website, [www.clchhi.org](http://www.clchhi.org). Our mailbox will be monitored daily to retrieve all mail.

It's important to the life of our congregation to continue our regular tithes and offering. Your weekly financial giving is crucial to maintain Church business, including monthly maintenance of our buildings.

Your church wants to be there for you in this crisis. Let us hear from you.

Pastor Mary Anderson - 803-210-5757

Kathy Reynolds - 678-643-6261

*A Prayer for These Days. . .*

*Gracious and amazing God, we know that you are in the midst of things we cannot always understand. We pray for healing for those who are ill with this virus around the world. Make your presence known to them. Give relief to those who fear loss of income or loss of their jobs while we are called to shelter at home. Help us to discover new ways to support one another while social distancing is part of our lives. As the forty days of Lent continue to call us to deepen our relationship with you and one another, may it be so among us. For grace, for peace, for mercy, for healing, we give you thanks, O God. AMEN*