



Live Well Church

December 9, 2020

Dear beloved Live Well family:

I pray this note finds you well and fully assured of God's unconditional love for you! I am writing to share my concern about the coronavirus and this pandemic that has impacted our country and the United World in unprecedented ways.

First, please allow me to take a moment and share my love for God's people who make up the church. I take my call and role as pastor and servant leader seriously. One of my life scriptures is the biblical passage which reminds all pastors to, ***"Shepherd the flock of God which is among you, serving as overseers, (not by compulsion but willingly, not for dishonest gain but eagerly; nor as being lords over those entrusted to you, but being examples to the flock; and when the Chief Shepherd appears, you will receive the crown of glory that does not fade away". (1 Peter 5:2-6 NKJV)***. It is this scripture that prompts me to take action and immediately change Live Well Church from limited in-person attendance to fully online and/or virtual.

COVID cases are increasing significantly. Hospitals are overwhelmed, schools that reopened are going virtual, and some of our beloved restaurants are closing - for good! My wife and I have made the difficult decision to not allow our children to return to their in-person class schedules.

The reality of COVID has recently come very close to home as a pastor and colleague (who I meet with virtually) has tested positive for COVID. Not to mention, one of our beloved deacons tested positive during mandatory testing at their place of employment. Fret not beloved, our deacon, as well as my colleague, is expected to fully recover. I must also mention that a parent of one of our deacons has tested positive as well. Although this deacon has recently tested negative, and their parent does not visit our church, I am concerned. It is out of this concern that I have made the decision to cease all in-person worship services until the end of January.

I will consult with Dr. Joan Hudgins (ministry lead of our health ministry), as well as other healthcare experts, the Mayor, and faith leaders within our community to make a wise and intelligent decision (based upon the science), to determine when in-person worship services will resume.

I am humbly requesting that only the praise team members join me for live worship on Sundays until further notice. Of course, our beloved praise team may use their own discretion concerning participation. If any choose not to participate, that is perfectly fine. Online services will take effect immediately.

As we continue to move forward in this new frontier, I pray that you will continue to support Live Well Church through your prayers, your online presence, and your personal Christian commitment to faithful and generous giving through tithes and offerings.

My dear beloved church family, before I close, let me leave you with another one of my life scriptures!

So do not worry, saying, 'What shall we eat?' or 'What shall we drink?' or 'What shall we wear?' For the pagans run after all these things, and your heavenly Father knows that you need them. But seek first his kingdom and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well. (Matthew 6:31-33 NIV)

I will continue to keep you in my thoughts and prayers. To combat any negative thoughts or depression during this stressful time, please remember that Pastoral care and counseling is available to each of you as members of the Live Well church family. Please contact Deacon Karen Beasley (732-912-4435) regarding scheduling.

We will get through this together. Our church family and ministry will be stronger than ever. God is with us!

With Gods love,

The Reverend Kahlil Carmichael MAPCC, MDIV

Senior Pastor

Live Well Church