

# COVID-19 Response Update March 17, 2020

Good morning friends ...

A lot has happened over the past few days. As the situation around COVID-19 continues to develop with growing uncertainty and new challenges, we will continue to update you regularly to stay connected as a church family.

Life at Port Colborne BIC is going to look different for the foreseeable future. Here are a few of the differences.

- In light of the recommendations made by the government, Public Health professionals and our denominational mandate we will not be holding in-person Sunday services through the end of March. This is a date that we will revisit regularly and we will keep you informed and up-to-date as best we can.
- We will continue to develop our livestream presence. We have been encouraged by the positive response after our first attempt last Sunday, and we look forward to continued growth and engagement. Our broadcast time will be Sundays at 10:30am.
- For those without the means to engage us through this technology please rest assured we will be staying in touch by phone to keep you updated. If you can't join us on the internet we encourage you to tune into Sunday services on TV ... there are many good speakers available.
- We all have friends here at Port BIC and we can all be good friends by staying in touch via video messaging, email, and phone calls. Your pastors will continue to offer spiritual care in person if requested.
- If you are unwilling/unable to go out to get groceries or pick up prescriptions please call the office and we'll help you get the things you need.
- The church office will be open from 10am to 1pm Monday to Friday. We'd suggest calling ahead to make sure we haven't been called away from the office for some reason.

We believe these are the most loving and proactive steps we can take to care for our church family, our neighbours, and our broader community. It is our obligation to "reduce the curve" by practicing "social distancing" during this time.

Lastly, it's always our aim to be transparent with you when we talk about money and finances. As a congregation you have always been very generous and we thank you for your support. There are a couple ways you can continue to support Port BIC: (1) mail your envelope to the church, (2) drop off your donation at the office (remember to call ahead) and (3) use our online giving platform by going to our website, [www.portbic.com](http://www.portbic.com), up in the top-right corner you'll see "Donate" ... just click that button and you'll be redirected to the Canada Helps website where you can complete your donation.

We have many folks who call Port BIC home who are First Responders and Health Care Workers ... Craig and Trish, Nathan, Tessa, Lisa, Bette, Lindsey, Cheryl, Tom, Joy and others. Please pray for them, send them words of encouragement via text, email or phone calls.

Thank you for your continued support and prayers as we navigate the changing circumstances in this current reality. A bigger-picture perspective sees these days as a tremendous opportunity for us to lean into and share the Person and Work of Jesus Christ like never before. These are the days when our faith kicks in—trusting in Jesus who said, "In this world you will have troubles. But I have overcome the world!"

Remember ... "Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways acknowledge him, and he will make your paths straight." (Proverbs 3:5,6)

Blessings