



Salt Creek Church Family,

I am sure that many of you, myself included, have been paying close attention to the developing situation regarding the COVID-19 outbreak in Oregon. Some have asked what this means for us as a church. After conferring with our Deacons it is our decision, at this time, to still hold a public worship service this coming Sunday. We will not have our formal greeting time during the service and we recommend everyone limit handshaking to a minimum. Here is what we would encourage you to consider:

- If you are concerned for your health or are not feeling well, please stay home.
- If you have a compromised immune system or other health complications that put you at increased risk if you contract the virus we recommend you stay home.

For those who are staying home for health concerns or otherwise we would like to remind you that you can watch the service via our online video stream. We stream the service via Facebook live so you need a Facebook account to access it. Once you have an account you must follow our page @SaltCreekChurch on Facebook to watch it. Simply go to www.facebook.com/SaltCreekChurch to find us and click the 'follow' button. On Sunday you will find the live stream of the service on that same page. You can also go to www.saltcreekchurch.org/podcasts/media to find all our past sermons online.

This may be the first time you have ever wondered if your life is at risk by attending a church service. Reflecting on this thought, I cannot help but think of our brothers and sisters in Christ who are part of the persecuted church around the world. Risking death to be a part of the church is a daily experience for them. I am not trying to say our situation is at all the same, but I do think this is an appropriate time to call for prayer for the persecuted church. So please, as you hear news of the COVID-19 outbreak, pause and pray for the persecuted church around the world. To learn more about the persecuted church please go to the Voice of the Martyrs website at www.persecution.com. I also encourage you to pray for missionaries who are in countries that are harder hit by this virus than our own, or do not have the health care system we take for granted. We must face this situation with an awareness that our faith is a global faith and that our God is Sovereign over all of this. This passage was in my devotions earlier this week and is a great reminder:

"It is better to take refuge in the LORD than to trust in humans. It is better to take refuge in the LORD than to trust in princes. - Psalm 118:8-9 NIV

Please keep in mind that this is a developing situation and this decision may change prior to Sunday. Any updates or changes to this will be posted on our website and Facebook page.

Grace & Peace,

Pastor David