

March 20, 2020

STAY CONNECTED!

Dear Friends,

These are confusing and fearful times for our world, but the love of God will not be thwarted. To this end, the Christ Church Deer Park staff and wardens have been working diligently this past week to address four major areas of ministry that must continue in spite of the world closing down around us.

1. **WORSHIP** is our reason for being and we must find means to worship in our homes, so we have devised various ways for you to stay connected through worship. This Sunday there will be two opportunities: An interactive conference call worship service at 10:00am and an online worship service that will be posted on our website for you to watch. Please join us for either or both. Simultaneously, Andrew Colman will be offering Children's Ministry via ZOOM, for the children of our parish.

a. For the telephone liturgy at 10:00 on Sunday, please follow these steps:

i. Dial: **1-800-974-5902** anywhere in Canada/US

416 874-8100 in Toronto

Then enter this number when prompted: **6412466#**

b. The bulletin for this morning's service is attached to this email

Christ Church Deer Park Digital channels include:

Website: www.christchurchdeerpark.org

Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/ccdpToronto/>

Instagram account: <https://www.instagram.com/christchurchdeerpark/>

Check these channels frequently during the pandemic. We will be posting devotions throughout the time we are unable to meet and worship together. We would love to post some of your prayers and reflections too so send them to us! If you wish to drop into the church for prayer and quiet, the worship space will be opened at noon on Fridays. Please remember to keep social distancing while you are in the building.

2. **PASTORAL CARE** is particularly needed when we have been cut off from each other and when we are acutely aware that the virus can be a deadly attack on our elderly. I am therefore thrilled to know that a great deal of informal telephone and email "visits" have been occurring in our community. More formally, clergy and lay people

have been calling our more vulnerable parishioners to check that they are well and that their needs are covered, as well as “visiting” those who are alone and may feel isolated. If you would like a phone visit or someone to bring you groceries, please call the church (416.920.5211) or reply to this email and we will attend to your needs.

3. **OUTREACH** to the needy continues at CCDP. Anne Larkin is soldiering on with the Saturday morning breakfast and has spent time finding a way to offer take-out breakfast. She is also working with the Churches-on-the-Hill Foodbank as they are faced with an increased need for food and household supplies. Due to the cancellation of the annual food drive, the foodbank is in dire need of funds to get through this crisis, so please donate online: <http://www.cothfoodbank.ca/donate/> In addition, you may also support the programme by supplying these immediate needs: baby formula, jars of baby cereal and... yes... toilet paper! Anne is also in need of volunteers for both the Saturday breakfast and foodbank ministries. All able bodied and healthy people are welcome. Teenagers and their parents who are at home, may like to consider these volunteer opportunities. Please be in touch with Anne Larkin: larkin_anne@hotmail.com or the church. Messages are picked up daily.
4. **ADMINISTRATION and FINANCE** are areas that cannot be ignored, even in a world crisis. The wardens and clergy have been meeting every two days to address financial and staffing implications of the crisis. CCDP has limited funds and several employees. How do we remain “in love and charity” with our employees and not bleed our resources? This is of great concern for our Management Team and so they are paying close attention to our finances. You may help by continuing your financial support. For those of you who bring your donation each Sunday or are envelope users, I am sure you want to stay up to date with your givings. Feel free to drop off your envelope at the church on Mondays, Wednesdays or Fridays. If you cannot come to the church, please call and one of the wardens will pick up your cheque. Please also consider pre-authorized giving. Now may be a good time to sign up for this service. With concern for our staff, office hours have been reduced. The office will be closed on Tuesdays and Thursdays during the crisis.

Many blessings to you. I look forward to connecting with you at our services on Sunday. Come prepared to sing over the phone!

Cheryl Palmer