



April 28, 2020

RE: Concordia and the COVID-19 (Coronavirus) Pandemic

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

As a result of the Governor's latest Executive Order, our Board of Elders and Ministry Staff met, exercising social distancing, and the Elders voted to continue the suspension of our worship services and other ministry activities through May 31, 2020, unless circumstances dictate otherwise. Pastor Geml and our ministry staff will continue to develop and produce worship and Bible study opportunities online for us.

In addition, the Southeastern District has developed a "2020 Installation Protocol" in light of the Pandemic. This protocol permits the ordination, commission and installation of called workers who have accepted divine calls during the pandemic to serve in their new ministry positions. The protocol allows the participation in the installation of at the very least the called worker, the installer, and one witness/participant from the congregation. In light of the latest Executive Order in place, we are limited to a gathering of no more than 10 people at this time. While we are disappointed in our inability to properly celebrate the installation of Pastor Geml as our Senior Pastor as a congregation and community, the Elders believe it is necessary that his installation take place sooner rather than later. Therefore, the Elders approved the installation of Michael Geml as Senior Pastor of Concordia Evangelical Lutheran Church using the 2020 Installation Protocol and have notified the Southeastern District of this action and requested the assistance of the District in the installation of Pastor Geml. Once the Pandemic and its restrictions have ended, we will plan an appropriate celebration to welcome Pastor Geml and his family to Concordia.

These are still unusual and extraordinary times that no one living today has experienced. We continue to pray for all people according to their needs and pray for the support of the work of our Lord at Concordia. Remember to check on each other and continue to assist your neighbors with their needs.

Concordia's leadership continues to monitor the pandemic and will determine appropriate action in an effort to comply with Federal, State and local health officials to minimize contact with other individuals in order to slow the spread of the virus and keep ourselves and others healthy and safe.

In Christ,

Kyle Hayman
Congregation President

David Isenhower
Board of Elders Chair