

**"Never be afraid to trust an unknown future  
to a known God."**

— Corrie ten Boom



How many times have we turned to the mantra above?

- We used it as we considered the possibility of consolidation.
- We used it as we grieved our old congregations and the blessing they bestowed.
- We used it as we attempted the impossible—sale of a building, sale of an organ, becoming a new staff.
- We used it through all of the blessings and messiness of 'becoming' Vista.
- We used it as we decided to invest in our future as we grow the staff and vision of Vista.

Now we are called on to use it in another way.

Out of faith and love for our faith community and our neighbors, we are suspending Worship and all ongoing groups at Vista through March 30th. In the midst of the growing threat of COVID-19/Coronavirus, the leadership of Vista is following state recommendations today to mitigate the COVID-19 pandemic. The executive team will meet weekly to assess how to meet current and future needs.

At this moment we know enough from the World Health Organization, the Center for Disease Control, and the Minnesota Department of Health... that at least for a period of time, we need to change our behavior and change the ways we come together.

*This includes cancellation of:*

- Sunday and Wednesday worship services
- Choirs and instrumental ensembles
- Children's and youth activities
- Adult groups and activities
- Vista's Outside Group Activities, ministries that serve food to our neighbors in need, may continue at the discretion of the group

We are a community of faith centered in love and outreach. Our members and neighbors are central to all that we do. We therefore, out of abundant love want to keep our seniors, those at risk and the greater community as safe as we can. We hold in prayer all who suffer as a result of this pandemic— particularly those in vulnerable conditions based on age, or health, or employment.

The church office will be open during regular office hours.  
Pastor Heidi will be available by phone, text, email or in person.

(612) 799-1232

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*This is what we can and will do:*

- We will continue to love our neighbors and our faith community.
- We will have Virtual Worship available ASAP on Facebook and our website.
- We will be developing new ministries to meet the needs of our community and the greater community that will be available hopefully within the week.  
(please check our website to signup or call the church office)
  - Calling tree to every member to check on wellbeing and spiritual needs
  - Meal Train will be activated for any member who is ill or forced to self isolate while ill.
  - Shopping for members unable to leave their homes or at risk in the general public.
- We will open Vista every Wednesday for those who wish to pray in the Sanctuary or Chapel, talk to Pastor Heidi, share a concern or have Communion.
  - 2—8 PM
  - Social Distancing is our new norm.
  - Cleaning protocols are being followed to keep all as safe as possible.

We will be God's light in the world!

We're not cancelling church— WE'RE the church... all of us together ... where ever we are. We're just going to relate to one another... connect with one another in a different way for a while.

Now is our opportunity to truly be good neighbors—reach out to those around you, support them through this time. Share your faith!

God is present!

Pastor Heidi & Vista Executive Team