

Dear Quest Family,

We wanted to update you on our response to COVID-19. On March 4, 2020, the Seattle/King County Department of Public Health issued a statement recommending, *"If you can feasibly avoid bringing large groups of people together, consider postponing events and gatherings."* As we've been monitoring their reports and recommendations closely, **it is with much prayer and collective discernment that we will cancel our Sunday services temporarily beginning this Sunday, March 8. Quest will be live streaming ONE special Sunday service at 10am through our Facebook account beginning this Sunday and until we feel it is wise to resume in-person worship services.** A while back, Pastor Gail share with the staff in a development training: "Creativity thrives on constraints." Let's shift our thinking now to respond to these constraints with creative opportunities and solutions.

You may have heard me say this on Sunday, and it's worth repeating: **We do not lead and respond out of fear, but out of love and care for our church and the wider community.** This is the 'why' that drives our decision. We want to do our part as members of the community to reduce the number of people infected and protect those who are at higher risk. Let's be a part of the solution!

Our Mission + Jeremiah 29:7

Lastly, we want to remind ourselves of the first part of our mission: **Love people wholeheartedly.** Jeremiah 29:7 calls us to "seek the welfare (shalom) of the city..." We can't think of a better way right now to love and seek the welfare of our community, city, and world than to choose a public health decision that centers on caring for the most vulnerable by proactively working to stop the spreading of this virus. This is how we love people well.

We know that shutting down our services is a big deal and definitely did not take this decision lightly. As we press forward, our decisions will be guided by the Holy Spirit, prayer, and information from these public services: [Washington State Department of Health](#), [Centers for Disease Control and Prevention](#), [King County Public Health](#). Additionally, we are postponing all other Quest events for now, including Faith, Race, & Place. If you have questions, you can email info@seattlequest.org.

With love and care,
Quest Leadership