



# CHURCH OF THE TRINITY

METROPOLITAN COMMUNITY CHURCH

## IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENT



### **Urgent Announcement!**

Dear Ones:

As much as no pastor ever wants to do this, I am writing to inform you that by a unanimous vote of the Board of Directors, we are suspending our Worship Services and Programming for the next two weeks. I have been thinking about this for several days and have prayed over it diligently, and it seems that this is the best course for us to take so that we are certain we have taken the utmost care of our congregation.

After listening to the experts on the news, reading every article we can find and consulting trusted advisers, we believe that there are two major reasons to suspend our church services and activities:

1. Our congregation is made up of a large percentage of people who have the top 2 elements of greatest susceptibility:
  - They are over 60 years old
  - They have underlying health issues
2. Though there seems to be no significant spread in our area, there is also an issue of there being very little testing done and very few testing kits available. This means that without adequate testing, we have no idea who may be carrying the virus. We do not want to look back and wish we had done this before one of our own was infected!

We have put together a plan for this two-week period and want to outline it here for you.

### **Worship**

There will be No Worship Services on March 15th and 22nd.

- Rev. Lillie will be preaching, praying and offering communion via Facebook Live both Sundays. Click [HERE](#) for a direct connection to join us on Facebook. We will begin at our regular time – 10 am.
- A written reflection, prayer and copy of the Sunday News will be posted on our website at [www.trinitymcc.com/blog](http://www.trinitymcc.com/blog) for both Sundays.
- Also on our website, are previous sermons that you can watch. Click [HERE](#) to see those sermons.
- On our Facebook page, the last several weeks of recorded services can be found, in full, for viewing. Click [HERE](#)

## **Programming**

- All programs that include 10 or more people, will be suspended from Friday, March 13th – Saturday, March 28th.
- Meetup Groups will not meet but Meetup Group Leaders will stay in touch with their groups to ensure connection and care.
- All Outreach efforts and Social Events will all be suspended during this time.

### **This includes:**

- Emma E. Booker Book Fair – we don't know if we will miss participating or if it will be postponed.
- Manatee Pride which has been postponed until May 23rd
- Feeding Empty Little Tummys Food Drive will be postponed
- Potluck and Bingo on Wednesday, March 18th
- Balance Class on Thursday, March 19th and 26th
- Choir Practice on Thursday, March 19th and 26th

## **Congregational Care**

- Rev. Lillie will be sending a Daily Reflection and Prayer during this time. Please check your email each day click [here](#) to see it on our website.
- Revs. Lillie, Donna and Tony will be available so that you can reach out to us if you have a need. Call the church office and leave a message. We will check messages daily and get back to you or you can email one of us:
  - Rev. Lillie – [lbrock@trinitymcc.com](mailto:lbrock@trinitymcc.com)
  - Rev. Tony – [tviglione@trinitymcc.com](mailto:tviglione@trinitymcc.com)
  - Rev. Donna – [revdrt2011@gmail.com](mailto:revdrt2011@gmail.com)
- Rev. Donna and the Deacons will be checking in on those we know are sick or have other specific needs.
- If you become aware of someone who has a special need, please contact Rev. Donna at [revdrt2011@gmail.com](mailto:revdrt2011@gmail.com) or leave a message on the church phone at 941-355-0847. We will check them daily and get back to you.
- We will be determining in the coming days some ways that we might serve our community during this time that are safe. We will let you know about them as soon as we can.

## **Church Office**

- Some of the staff and volunteers may be in the office from time to time during this suspension but there will be no regular office hours.
- All staff will be working from home during regular hours and can be reached from 9 am-5 pm, Monday through Thursday. See below for staff contact information
  - Rev. Lillie: [lbrock@trinitymcc.com](mailto:lbrock@trinitymcc.com)
  - Rev. Tony: [tviglione@trinitymcc.com](mailto:tviglione@trinitymcc.com)
  - Rev. Donna: [revdrt2011@gmail.com](mailto:revdrt2011@gmail.com)
  - Ambor Severson: [aseverson@trinitymcc.com](mailto:aseverson@trinitymcc.com)
  - Bob Terra: [RTerra@trinitymcc.com](mailto:RTerra@trinitymcc.com)

## **What We Need From You**

As you might imagine, this decision will impact our financial position, perhaps even beyond the next couple of weeks. In that spirit as a matter of consistent and faithful giving, if you made a commitment around giving in 2020, please do one of the following:

- Give on Facebook by clicking [HERE](#), under the Holy Vessels image click on the DONATE button.
- Email Ambor at [aseverson@trinitymcc.com](mailto:aseverson@trinitymcc.com), to call you directly to run

your credit card information

- Mail your check to the church office at:

***Church of the Trinity MCC  
7225 Lockwood Ridge Road  
Sarasota, FL 34243***

Do your part to stay connected to your church family. Check in on your church friends and please take advantage of all the thing described above that will help you stay connected.

As we know more or have additional things to share, we will communicate with you about them. If you have immediate questions about this decision, you can reach your pastors this weekend on the schedule below:

**Saturday, March 14**

9 am-Noon – Rev. Donna Twardowski at 941-549-9667

1 pm-3 pm – Rev. Tony Viglione at 203-645-7400

3 pm-6 pm – Rev. Lillie Brock at 214-287-3351

**Sunday, March 15**

9 am-Noon – Rev. Donna Twardowski at 941-549-9667

1 pm-3 pm – Rev. Tony Viglione at 203-645-7400

Please pray diligently with me each day that this virus will be brought under control and that fewer and fewer people will be affected adversely by it. God, in your mercy, heal the broken places.

Warmly,

Pastor Lillie