

*The Psalmist writes, "The Lord is near to the brokenhearted, and saves those who are crushed in spirit."  
(Psalm 34:18)*

Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

I am comforted by these words as I write this communication to you, for my heart breaks as I inform you that ALL FPC worship services, programs, and activities are cancelled through at least March 27, 2020. This decision has been difficult to make, but the FPC Session, under the guidance of the Presbytery of Baltimore as well as civil and government officials, believes this to be the best decision for all. This decision, of course, is in response to the COVID-19 virus.

As I read in a similar communication from another church pastor, this does not mean FPC is cancelling church, for as we know the church is not the building, but you, the people make up the body of Christ. To that end, I am hoping you will think about those who sit near you in the sanctuary for worship. Remember them and others in your thoughts and prayers on a regular basis and reach out to them with an email or a phone call throughout these coming weeks.

Speaking of communication, we (the staff, elders, deacons, and I) promise to be in touch with you via email, the church website, and Facebook. Please help us by staying abreast of what's happening with our church family. At this time, Tony and I, as well as the deacons, will not be able to make visits in hospitals, care facilities, or retirement communities. We encourage you to notify us of any pastoral care concerns you might have, or which may arise during this time.

As said above, this Session decision has been difficult to make. Please know that the staff, elders, deacons, and I are holding all of us and many others in our hearts and prayers. And if there is anything we can do during this time, please let us know.

With much love for you all,  
Eric T. Myers, pastor

Note: If you wish to keep up with the weekly lectionary, please follow this link:

<https://www.presbyterianmission.org/devotion/revised-common-lectionary/>

In addition, you can find the Daily Prayer app with brief services for daily prayer based on the Presbyterian Book of Common Worship here: <https://www.pcusa.org/news/2012/10/31/daily-prayer-app-here/>