



3.13.2020

A Call to Safe Worship

Dear Church

As COVID-19 has become a global pandemic, and upon the prudent advice from medical and government officials, we have made important decisions for the **safety** and **well-being** of our church, out of love for you and for our city.

We believe **God is with us**, caring for us in our deepest times of need. In these times, we choose faith over fear, trust over doubt, and sacrificial love over individual gain.

Gathering

We are moving our Chinese and English services to **online streaming**, starting March 15. All official gatherings, including Sunday service and organized group gatherings on site will be **suspended** until further notice. During the week, the church will be open for select hours.

We have concluded the best way to love our church and our city is to slow the virus (called "flattening the curve") by restricting all meetings that require close social contact. We do not fear disease nor death, but we love those who may be at risk, and do not want to be those who spread it.

Social Distancing

We are asking small groups to find **new ways** to meet, such as video calls. The church has historically found ways to share God's peace, justice, and mercy through persecutions and plagues, so this is a time for us to re-imagine how to support one another as the body of Christ.

Research tells us that **early prevention** is key, and the earlier we stop gatherings, the earlier we may be able to resume them, though we cannot guarantee when.

Caring

"There is no fear in love. But perfect love drives out fear"

-1 John 4:18

Let us care for one another in this time, and through love drive out the pandemic of fear.

For the elderly and sick who are most vulnerable and isolated at this time, we are organizing care groups who will call them, support them, and pray with them.

Caring

For the children living in this culture of fear, let us listen to them and pray with them.

We will create regular family worship guidelines to supplement our live stream, to empower your family for worship and prayer.

For youth and young adults, we will continue a rhythm of gathering together online in new creative ways to share life and pray together.

Online Streaming and Giving

For online streaming in Chinese, visit:

facebook.com/recfamily

For online streaming in English, visit:

facebook.com/recenglish

To continue giving to our church family, visit:

richmondemmanuelchurch.org/give/

Church Availabilities

Monday	Closed
Tuesday – Thursday	10:00am-2:00pm
Friday – Sunday	By appointment

Inquiries: info@richmondemmanuelchurch.org