

## COVID-19 Response

Recommendations are coming from the White House and CDC (Center for Disease Control) to limit gathering sizes to limit the spread of the Corona Virus, and our worship gatherings exceed these sizes. At this point we will continue with our worship services as planned. However, if you do not feel well or if you have underlying health issues that make you vulnerable to contagious diseases, you are encouraged to stay home. Worship will still be available to you. Our Sunday service at 9:00 AM is broadcast at 100.1 FM, or you can listen to the livestream on the Internet. The easiest way to get to the livestream is on our church website: [www.stpaulykt.org](http://www.stpaulykt.org) and click on the link: [Shoutcast Audio Stream](#) at the bottom of the page. There are also archived worship services and sermons on the website. Please check for changes to the schedule on our Facebook page (St. Paul Lutheran Church Yorktown, Tx) or call the office (361-564-2135) or Pastor (512-922-6217).

NALC Bishop Dan Selbo sent a letter to all Pastors and Congregations of the NALC which is posted on our Facebook page (St. Paul Lutheran Church Yorktown, Tx) and will be included in April's Newsletter in its entirety, and here is a portion of that letter for us to consider as we deal with our response to the COVID-19 virus:

*I have a long list of concerns related to the coronavirus. I am concerned for the elderly who are the most at risk. I am concerned for the disenfranchised and for those on the streets who have no one and nowhere to turn. I am concerned for the loss of reason that seems to have overtaken so many in their own personal response to what is truly a communal concern. I am concerned that people are stockpiling supplies they do not need, so much so that those who do need them are not able to find them. I am concerned for our hospitals and our clinics and for the doctors and nurses and overcrowded emergency rooms that are all being stretched. I am concerned for our economy and for those whose lives will be impacted by the loss of jobs. I am concerned for a long list of things, for these and many more, but I am not afraid...neither should we, as a Church, be afraid.*

*Rather than live in fear, let us together approach this challenge in faith. We have an opportunity to model for our children and for families and for each other what a faith-filled and faithful response can be. Instead of living in panic and in fear, being reactionary and taking a self-centered response, we have a chance to remain rational and reasoned and to approach this pandemic in a spirit of trust.*

*What I fear, more than COVID-19, is that we will forget who we are and to whom we belong. As a church, we need to take preventive measures and commit ourselves to prayer. We need to rely on the health professionals for advice and entrust our lives to Christ. We need to take full advantage of the resources we have been given and follow the best-practices of those who can give helpful and health-giving advice. And then we need to step back and stay centered and remember and remind each other that we belong to Christ.*