

## **March 18, 2020 Church Update for First Congregational Church of River Falls, WI**

**Worship:** There will be no in person worship for the next two Sundays (March 22 & 29), but we will offer a shortened worship service from 11-11:30 am on WEVR (106.3). We hope to have a link to this on our web page or even live stream it. Details will be sent out later this week in the Friday Weekly Word via email.

**Education/Faith Formation:** There will be no in-person classes until further notice. We will be providing a weekly online resource for families which will be on the website for Sunday morning. Confirmation & Pre-Confirmation will also move to online with a lesson emailed for each missed class.

**Building Access:** As of Wednesday at 4 pm the building will be closed. We will give the building a few days to settle and then start deep cleaning the entire building.

**Staff:** The church office will be closed this Thursday and Friday. Staff will work remotely. Starting next week the church office will be open 9 am to noon Monday through Thursday. You can contact church staff via their email and cell numbers which will be in the Weekly Word. If you need access to the building, please contact one of the church staff, but remember we are limiting access to all but essential purposes for the rest of this week.

**Pastoral Care:** Our church staff are here to help and support you. Please do not hesitate to contact a pastor or church staff member through email or phone. As hospital and nursing home access is severely limited, we have a system to reach out to our shut-ins and vulnerable seniors with notes and cards. If you want to be included in this ministry, please email the church office (office@firstchurchrf.org) and we will connect you to a shut-in.

**Finances:** Although we will no longer meet in person, please maintain your financial pledge. Gifts can be mailed or even better, sign up for e-giving through this form ([Electronic Giving Form](#)) which can be emailed or mailed to the church office. There is also a secure mail drop in the right hand pillar of the front entrance of the church building which is checked daily.

I end with my profound thanks for the ministry you are all being called to do now. Amidst all the change, confusion and adaptation, I have seen and heard of the marvelous ways you are being the body of Christ in and for the world. More on this on Sunday at 11:00 am, but for now: May God bless you, may Christ guide you, and the Holy Spirit strengthen you.

In Gratitude,  
Pastor Chris