

Friends and Families of ECOB,

Brothers and sisters in Christ, you are loved and missed! Really, when I don't get the regular interaction with our faith community, I miss you and hope that you are well. As our connections get strained because of many staying indoors, it is more important than ever to find opportunities to keep in touch with one another.

I have been keenly aware during my life a verse today – “Consider it pure joy when you face trials of many kinds, for you know that the testing of your faith produces steadfastness. And let steadfastness have its full effect, that you may be perfect and complete, lacking in nothing.” James 1:2-4. These are trying times, no doubt about it. They can produce worry, fear, anxiety, and confusion; however, our God is not a God of these things! Our God is a God of strength, boldness, calm, and order. Claiming the power, the transformative power of Jesus in this world, and then boldly radiating that out love to others, is something all of us can do. As we live by faith, as we seek God's voice, and as we listen to our governmental authorities (as we are called to do), here are some ways in which ECOB is serving our faith community and surrounding communities.

1) Connect

- a. **At the beginning of each week, we will be sending out an email with all that is happening in that week so that you can connect with others at ECOB.**
- b. We are offering times for life groups to get together through Zoom. This is a video conference software and it has proven to be helpful in keeping people connected.
- c. We are also working hard to create a call list to make sure that everyone is being cared for.

2) Grow

- a. Children, youth, and adult gatherings on Zoom will occur. Please watch the FB pages of each of these groups for more information.
- b. We will continue our Bridging the Gap lessons next Tuesday (during our regular Jericho time) at 6pm. Please join us via Zoom (this information will be in Monday's email)

3) Live

- a. We will have ONLINE LIVE WORSHIP every week at 10AM on ECOB's FB account. We are working hard to get it on our website in the next few weeks.

4) Radiate

- a. We are supporting those in ECOB and those in our community in a number of ways – they are listed below.
 - i. Working with PowerPacks for unloading, creation, and distribution of food for those in need (Wednesdays/Thursdays)
 - ii. Working with Ephrata Public Schools for weekday distribution of food. Specifically, picking up students to get to school and pick up their weekday food.
 - iii. Working with Javateas to provide a lift for health care workers at the Hospital through inspirational works of encouragement and free coffee.
 - iv. Writings cards, texts, to those in retirement homes
- b. If you are interested in helping on one or more of these items, please fill out this form - <https://thehubatecob.ccbchurch.com/goto/forms/64/responses/new>
- c. If you are in need of anything, please fill out this form - <https://thehubatecob.ccbchurch.com/goto/forms/65/responses/new>

Friends, this will be a long road, and those that you have called to be missionaries (our staff) in this time are working hard to fulfill the calling God and you have placed on them. Please reach out to them if you have need, if you need someone to talk to, or if you are willing to help in any way.

Pastor Brian Messler – 240.357.1603

Dean Sensenig – 717.314.4318

Carol Bowman – 717.413.9821

Ryan Burkholder – 717.201.0211

Finally, in order to be compliant with the orders from our government, all construction has stopped until further notice. Please be in prayer for this process and know that once we are given the “go”, we will keep that ball rolling.

Remember to stay in if you are sick – we can help you get the things you need. Serve one another, connect with one another, support one another the best you can.

You are missed, friends, and loved. May the peace of God and His abundance love cover you.

Blessings,

Brian

PS – Don’t forget to look for an email on Monday for all of the online options to connect.grow.live.radiate the transformative power of Jesus in this world – and one another.