

April 13, 2020

Hi ECOB Family,

Wow, you are amazing! We are a family of disciples who desire to connect to, grow in, live out and radiate the transformative power of Jesus in the world – and you have been doing just that! You are finding unique ways to bless one another, encourage each other, and love each other. For that, friends, I am extremely grateful. Here are some notes from this past week and the week coming up!

1. Last week April 6-12

a. Connect

- i. Caring ProtoCALL - If you have not received a phone call by the end of this week, please contact Pastor Brian. We have been working hard at keeping our large family connected through this one on one phone call. As you are called, if there is anything that we, as a church, can do to serve you, please let us know.

b. Grow

- i. Our Kidmin/Student Ministries are still connecting through weekly read and chat times as well as lunch together and SNL (Sunday Night Live – Students) through ZOOM.
- ii. Multiple life groups are using ZOOM for connecting to one another. This has been a blessing during this time of not being able to do face to face meetings

c. Live

- i. Worship – What a wonderful Easter morning! It started at 6:30am with our youth leading the way through scripture, song, and testimony. We then continued our morning at 10AM with our Easter Celebration Service. We pray that the video and audio sounded better. We are working on a better mix for the future. This is certainly a learning curve for us. In addition, we were excited to receive all the equipment we needed this past week! Thanks for your patience as we continue to get the kinks worked out.
- ii. Love Feast – we had about 100 people participate in Love Feast this year. It was so special and tender to be together in this way. We used the breakout room function to have 4-5 families eat together and talk. We then gathered for a message from Ryan Burkholder and a time of self-examination. We also broke into groups again for a time of prayer for one another. Finally, we participated in Communion together. It was awesome to hear people saying hello to one another and greeting each other warmly. In addition to ECOB families, we have people join us from Maryland and Puerto Rico!!

d. Radiate

- i. PowerPaks – Started up this week as we served almost 100 families in our community. We have been honoring social distancing the best we can, and where needed, have been using gloves and even some have used masks as well. While the masks are not mandatory, we are finding that many appreciate the “extra” care that ECOB is taking in doing this. Trish Schlegel has been a point person and we are grateful for her leadership.
- ii. We continue serving and supporting Ephrata Schools with supplying drivers for those who cannot come to schools themselves and need help.

e. Operations

- i. Construction continues (with the waiver Ames has received). Last week, many of the Life Group Rooms, Offices, and Youth Spaces were nearing completion. We can anticipate that this week (April 13), we will be able to have many of these spaces done, including the sanctuary.
- ii. The office will be closed through April 30 – this includes all ministries and “in person” worship.

2. This coming week April 13-19

a. CONGREGATION WIDE

i. What: Community Prayer Time

1. Date/Time: Apr 15, 2020 08:00 PM
2. Zoom Information: <https://zoom.us/j/163473464>
3. Call In: 1 646 558 8656 - Meeting ID: 163 473 464

ii. What ECOB LIVE WORSHIP

1. Date/Time: April 19, 2020

- a. Worship – 10AM
    - i. ECOB Website: [www.ecob.church](http://www.ecob.church)
    - ii. FB LIVE: <https://www.facebook.com/ephrtacob/>
    - iii. Vimeo - <https://vimeo.com/user65628481>
    - iv. YouTube - <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCNaNiDBGKmkQ4v9-W6ysqYA>
  - b. KIDMIN
    - i. What: Preschool Story Time
      - 1. Date/Time: Apr 13, 2020 10:00 AM
      - 2. Zoom Information: <https://zoom.us/j/177691936?pwd=ODNwRncvWkd6Q1RLaTZTNXE5RGE4QT09>
    - ii. What: ECOB Kids Game Time with Michelle
      - 1. Date/Time: Apr 17, 2020 01:00 PM
      - 2. Zoom information: <https://zoom.us/j/270130259?pwd=R1RRRCtGZytOdmhNOVVaRFB4Ym9RZz09>
  - c. Student Ministry
    - i. What: StudentMin Lunch
      - 1. Date/Time: Apr 16, 2020 12:00 PM - <https://zoom.us/j/211138684>
      - 2. Call In - 1 646 558 8656 - Meeting ID: 211 138 684
    - ii. What: SNL (Sunday Night Live - Students)
      - 1. Date/Time: April 19, 2020 06:00 PM - <https://zoom.us/j/922133809>
      - 2. Call In: +1 646 558 8656 US - Meeting ID: 922 133 809
  - d. Young Adult Ministry
    - i. What: Young Adult Gathering
      - 1. Date/Time: Apr 15, 2020 06:00 PM - <https://zoom.us/j/819759898>
      - 2. Call In: 1 929 436 2866 - Meeting ID: 819 759 898
3. OTHER ITEMS
- a. Tithes and Offerings
    - i. The mission and ministries of ECOB continue, even during this season. While we are away from one another, the missionaries that you have called (staff), the Leadership Team, Deacons, and many congregation members are still serving in unique and powerful ways (all the while keeping governmental standards in place). If you are able to give during this time, please feel free to contact Rich Bealer to have him help set up a Push Pay account – I would invite you, like my family does, set up a reoccurring account. If Push Pay is not your “thing”, please consider mailing in your tithe and offering. While many of us are home and cannot always see what is happening at ECOB, is always good to keep reminding ourselves the work God is doing in and through ECOB is not stopping!
  - b. Office Hours
    - i. We are considering opening the office for 1 or 2 days a week so that you can drop off your tithe and offering as well as well as other ministry needs that pop up from time to time. More on this will come in next weeks letter. Again, we are a life-sustaining organization and will adhere to CDC protocols the best we possibly can.

You are missed friends, you are loved! If you have any concerns of questions, please feel free to contact me directly at [brian@ecob.church](mailto:brian@ecob.church). In the meantime, keep safe, stay sane.

Blessings,  
Pastor Brian