

April 14, 2020

Hello to everyone,

Following the announcement that schools would not be returning until at least May 4 and that the state of emergency in Ontario would be extended for another 28 days, it has been decided to suspend church until at least May 3, 2020.

As it's becoming increasingly clear that this new normal may last months, we must continue to plan for the uncertainty that awaits us. At times like these, it could be very easy to forget our responsibilities to our neighbours, but that is not the Lorne Park way.

We have asked you to continue with your offering. But this is no longer about programming, utilities and salaries. What about those in our community who have been laid off, who are afraid for the future and who are suffering financial strain, including members of our own congregation. They are our neighbours too.

As this crisis deepens, we need to ask whether there is more we can be doing.

At such a time as this, I am not just asking you to continue with your offering, I am asking you to join me in taking the lead and, if you are able, increase your offering. Due to physical distancing, we cannot do much more than this.

So many things have changed in the past weeks, but the ministry to which we have been called remains the same. Through our offering we can do even more right here in our community. Perhaps we can pay the rent for someone who has been laid off. Perhaps we can buy them groceries. Perhaps we can do more. I encourage you to give generously to our church, our community and the world. I believe that now is the time to love our neighbours and our community like we have never loved them before.

Just as everything else seems to have changed, the way we give has also changed. So here are ways that you can contribute to the ministry of Lorne Park:

- Make an e-transfer using [donations@lpbc.ca](mailto:donations@lpbc.ca)
- drop your cheque off in the church mailbox at the end of the driveway
- use Canada Post to mail your cheque to the church
- use the link to Canada Helps on our website ([www.lpbc.ca](http://www.lpbc.ca))
- call and leave a message at the church for someone to come and pick up your cheque
- speak to Julie Cowie to be added to the PAR system (an automatic withdrawal from your bank account on a monthly basis)

As we navigate these challenging times, I pray for your health and safety and that you will feel God's presence with you.

In Christ Alone,

Bruce Preston,  
Chair, Executive Council