

TATE SPRINGS

BAPTIST CHURCH

March 24, 2020

Dear Tate Springs Family,

At the writing of this letter, Tarrant County leadership has issued a “shelter-in-place” order which furthers restrictions for in-person gatherings. This obviously impacts our church’s ability to pursue ministry as we’ve known it.

Because of this, along with the unknowable future, we have decided to suspend all of our on-campus gatherings indefinitely, rather than making decisions week-to-week; **all of our programming for the foreseeable future will move to a digital, online format.**

While this is not the first time the Church in its history has been unable to meet publicly, this is the first time most of us have experienced it. In a way, we’ve reverted to the first century, where the church had to meet in small groups throughout their cities as opposed to large gatherings in a designated location. We, however, have the benefit of twenty-first century technology that keeps us all connected.

I believe that technology is part of God’s grace to affirm Jesus’ truth: “I will build my church, and the gates of Hades will not overcome it” (Matt 16:18).

We are therefore moving to a “first century church in a twenty-first century context” mentality. In light of this, I wanted to share a few updates about how we can continue to function as a church who worships God, disciples others, and shares our faith during this season of ministry.

Here are some key questions with answers:

How Can I Continue To Give?

First, thank you for your continued generosity. I’ve been so encouraged by members who have reached out asking how you can continue to give.

We’ve spent a lot of time in the past year talking about the importance of generosity to God’s Kingdom, and this is especially true right now. I anticipate many people coming to know Jesus during this time. In fact, I just received a word today of a person coming to Christ through our ministry! Your faithful generosity made that possible.

Our current giving options include:

- (1) **Online** – You can visit [tatesprings.com/give](https://www.tatesprings.com/give) to give today. Note we have opted to pay the convenience fees during this time to make this as easy as possible.

DISCOVER YOUR PART IN GOD’S STORY
4201 LITTLE ROAD | ARLINGTON, TX 76016 | 817-478-4102
WWW.TATESPRINGS.COM

(2) **Mail** – You can mail a check to Tate Springs at 4201 Little Road Arlington, Texas 76016. Please mark “attention” to Lynn Rugeberg.

(3) **Drop-off** – We will be installing a mail drop-off slot in one of our doors in the next two weeks so you can physically drop off your check if you prefer, once the shelter-in-place order is lifted. We’ll post the location once it’s installed.

(4) **Text** – Text the word “GIVE” to 817-587-4788 and you’ll be prompted through easy steps to get started. This is the easiest and fastest way to give.

How Do I Worship With My Church Family?

Although our on-campus services and programs have moved online for the foreseeable future, we have prayerfully and thoughtfully developed a weekly program that will keep us connected to God and to one another (and to one another in God!) every day of the week.

Here is the general schedule of weekly programs. Think of these like you would a television programming guide and then you can view or participate in the events that are relevant to you.

All of these will be viewable at [Facebook.com/tatesprings](https://www.facebook.com/tatesprings) and everything but Sunday morning and the kid’s programs will take place at 7:00pm.

- *Sunday* – Online Worship Service at 10:30am at [tatesprings.com/sermons](https://www.tatesprings.com/sermons) or [Facebook.com/tatesprings](https://www.facebook.com/tatesprings).
- *Monday* – The Spring Young Adult Bible Study at 7:00pm. Email connor@tatesprings if you are a young adult interested in joining the study.
- *Tuesday* – Family Roundtable at 7:00pm. Email curtis@tatesprings.com if you’re interested in joining.
- *Wednesday* – “The Story of Heaven” Bible Study with Pastor Jared at 7:00pm. Visit [tatesprings.com/heaven](https://www.tatesprings.com/heaven) if you’re interested in joining and receiving a free gift.
- *Thursday* – Worship Hour with Jason Nichols at 7:00pm.
- *Friday* – Youth Bible Study at 7:00pm. Email kyle@tatesprings.com for information
- *Saturday* – Live prayer meeting at 7:00pm.
- *Monday, Wednesday, and Friday* – Kid’s Programs at 1:00pm with Amanda Sikes. Email amanda@tatesprings.com with any questions.

We hope these programs will be a source of hope and encouragement to you and your family during our present situation.

How Do I Stay Connected With New Updates?

All of our communication will be digital. There are primarily three ways you can receive updates about how Tate Springs is responding to the coronavirus:

- (1) Social Media – You can follow our public Facebook page at [Facebook.com/tatesprings](https://www.facebook.com/tatesprings) and join our private channel at [Facebook.com/groups/tatesprings](https://www.facebook.com/groups/tatesprings).
- (2) Email – Join our email list by emailing Sheri at Sheri@tatesprings.com.
- (3) Website – Visit our website at [tatesprings.com/coronavirus](https://www.tatesprings.com/coronavirus) for all the latest updates.

DISCOVER YOUR PART IN GOD’S STORY

4201 LITTLE ROAD | ARLINGTON, TX 76016 | 817-478-4102

WWW.TATESPRINGS.COM

How Can I Get Help If I'm In Need?

God in His mighty sovereignty has prepared us for this crisis in many ways, most of which is through His Word. In our last physical gathering [we looked at Acts 2:41-47 together](#), where we learned that church is not merely what we do but who we are.

We have launched a “be the church” strategy where if you are someone in need of help, like shopping for groceries or a lift to a doctor’s appointment, we have a team of members ready and willing to help you. All you need to do is visit [tatesprings.com/coronavirus](https://www.tatesprings.com/coronavirus) and fill out the form at the bottom of the page.

What About Easter?

All measures show that Easter will be online only. Your leadership is prayerfully thinking through ideas to make sure this day does what we intend to do every Easter ... every Sunday ... and really, every day, which is to worship the resurrected Lord.

We are monitoring the situation to see if there is any way we can meet physically, such as a “drive-in church” where we stay in our vehicles and tune in to an FM station in our parking lot, but the goal is to do our very best to make the day memorable and special, and most of all to give glory to our resurrected Lord. Also, special attention is being given to how we can engage children during the service.

What About My Small Group?

Several Small Groups have already set up Zoom links so they can continue to host their weekly classes. We are encouraging all Small Group leaders to remain in touch with their classes on a weekly basis, as well as finding creative ways to remain together during this time of social distancing.

As we close, Tate Springs, I want you to know that I love you and miss you something terrible. These are challenging days, but we will walk through this together and in the strength of our Lord and be better for it.

Let me leave you with a verse I read just this morning: “Be patient, therefore, brothers, until the coming of the Lord ... Behold, we consider those blessed who remained steadfast” (James 5:7, 11).

Let’s remain steadfast as we wait on Jesus.

Pastor Jared

DISCOVER YOUR PART IN GOD’S STORY

4201 LITTLE ROAD | ARLINGTON, TX 76016 | 817-478-4102

WWW.TATESPRINGS.COM