To all Trinity members and friends,

Peace be with you in this unexpected wilderness journey in these days of Lent. We are being asked to give up more than we would have chosen, in an extended and widespread season of fasting.

The Session has actively been monitoring the situation with the Coronavirus and we have remained in conversation about how best to respond as a church. We are caught between the deep desire to gather together in community and the need to prioritize the health and safety of our whole community.

The Session has decided to suspend all in-person worship and activities at the church house through March 31st. We will closely follow the situation as it unfolds, and use guidance from the CDC, Governor Northam’s office, and the Virginia Department of Health, to reassess our restrictions by Friday, March 27.

Our plan is to offer streaming video of worship that will be led by a handful of individuals at the church house, so that all who wish to participate virtually may do so. Please check our website - www.trinitypresbyterianharrisonburg.org - or our Facebook page - www.facebook.com/TrinityHarrisonburg - for updates on how to participate in those services. If you are not able to join in the stream, we invite you to consider reading the lectionary passages for the morning, which can be found online: https://lectionary.library.vanderbilt.edu/, and using the 10-11am hour on Sunday for extended prayer or centering prayer. This website has excellent information on that practice: https://gravitycenter.com/practice/centering-prayer/

Our Facebook page will also be used to share resources you can access at home - Bible study, worship, music, devotions, prayers, etc... If there are particular things you would appreciate seeing posted on the Facebook page, please let Stephanie know.
Our Pastoral Care team and others will continue to reach out and provide care and connection, while abiding by the restrictions that have been set in place at the hospital and local retirement communities. If there is a particular need, please contact Jeff Carr, Associate for Pastoral Care - 540-470-0181 (phone/text) or jwc780@outlook.com.

Wonshé will keep regular office hours (Monday, Wednesday through Friday from 9:30-2:30), though the office itself will remain closed. She will be able to receive calls and emails, but to extend our precautions and keep our staff healthy, we will not be receiving visitors or drop-ins in the office during this time.

We recognize that the drastic changes in all areas of our lives, the uncertainty of all that lies ahead, and concerns about the virus itself have significantly heightened anxiety for all of us. The social isolation can also exacerbate anxiety, panic, and depression, while at the same time limiting or eliminating the very things that help keep us healthy in body, mind, and spirit. If you are in need of someone to talk to during this time, Ruling Elders Dane Byers (540-820-2132) and Ellie Cale (404-276-7978) are ready and willing to talk. Both Dane, a retired counselor, and Ellie, a licensed clinical psychologist, have extensive training and experience in counseling.

If you are looking for ways to meet needs in the community, contact the church office. We will try to facilitate matching those who have the time, health, and other resources to share with people or agencies that are receiving requests and notices of particular needs.

Speaking of needs, though being church will look different for a while, our budgetary needs remain. We will continue to take care of the facility, pay our staff, and fulfill our mission giving as we have pledged to do. We invite you to continue to give your tithes and offerings, which is both a practical help and an affirmation of faith in our God of abundance and generosity. You can mail your check to the church or give online - either with a one-time gift or on a recurring basis. You can give online at [www.tinyurl.com/give2tpc](http://www.tinyurl.com/give2tpc).

We also want to make sure we are reaching everyone with church communications, so it would help us greatly if you could call (540-434-9556) or email (office@trinitypresbyterianharrisonburg.org) the church office, or send response via USPS, responding with your communication preferences and updates.

Name: 
Phone (cell): Phone (home/other):
Preferred mailing address:
Preferred email address:
How would you prefer to receive communications from the church on a regular basis? This would include weekly announcements, prayer concerns, and any other announcements for the life and ministry of the church.

___ email ______ phone call ______ text

How would you like to receive periodic communications from the church? This would include the Nous, Seasonal Team newsletter (‘Tis the Season), etc. Check all that apply.

_____ email _____ mailbox at church ______ USPS

Through this journey that we did not choose, remember that we are not alone on the journey. God remains with each of us, and we travel together, even if six feet apart. Each and every one of you is in our prayers, and we are grateful for your prayers as we seek to discern the faithful way forward.

With love and prayers,

The Session of Trinity Presbyterian Church
Stephanie Sorge, Moderator
    Linda Bradley, Clerk
Carolyn Hinshaw, Youth Representative

Class of 2020  Class of 2021  Class of 2022
Dane Byers    Linda Bradley    Ellie Cale
Christopher Carlberg  Becca Lowrance  Yogi Gillette
Melodie Davis  Abby Striebig  Mary Knapp
Frances Sale    Bill Wilson  Judith LePera