



LAKESIDE LUTHERAN CHURCH

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An update on the effect of the “coronavirus” on Lakeside

A Message from Stewardship:

I would like to thank you all for your continued and generous support of Lakeside during this difficult time as we cope with the coronavirus. We take comfort and thank the Lord, knowing He is in control, and that all things will turn out for our good. We continue to pray for the wellbeing of you, your families, and all those struggling because of this pandemic.

Our leadership has been meeting weekly to find ways to bring the Gospel to you during this challenging period. We at Lakeside are so Blessed, that even though we are physically separated, we are able to worship via a virtual service by streaming them on our computer or TV. In addition, we have added drive by communion, and four virtual Bible classes. This has allowed us to not only spread the gospel message to you, but we are seeing people throughout the community and even other parts of the US who are viewing our virtual services.

We are planning to open the sanctuary on a limited basis starting May 31st, more information to follow shortly. Note, however that we will continue to maintain the streaming services for our “Snowbirds “, for those who may still feel uncomfortable with worshipping together in the sanctuary, and for our newly found virtual worshippers.

Due to your generosity, our financial situation has improved significantly since our last report. We will now be able to meet our financial obligations through the summer months and well into the fall.

1. We have reduced our Mortgage Payments by covering only interest payments for the next three months, thereby improving our cash flow by \$4,200 per month.
2. Following Florida-Georgia District guidance, we have applied for financial assistance from the Federal Government from the emergency Payroll Protection Program (PPP). We have received \$50,000 from this program and most likely will not have to repay this.
3. Our outstanding mortgage for the roof repair was approximately \$39,000. It has been paid off by using funds from our Endowment Fund. The money subsequently received for repayment of this loan will now be used to repay the Endowment Fund. This saves us approximately \$1,500 in interest.

4. We have completed the mold mitigation by installing a humidity control and air movement system in the sanctuary. We will complete the painting and sealing of the ceiling in the sanctuary by May 29. We feel confident that this problem is now behind us.

5. We have arranged for an online offering contribution system through Synod. It is taking a bit longer than we anticipated but should be ready sometime in June.

6. Unfortunately, and with a heavy heart we have concluded that the Preschool must remain closed during the remainder of 2020. Needless to say, this decision was not an easy one to make. Since the suspension of the Preschool in April resulting from the coronavirus, Preschool leadership, the Church Council, and the Board of Elders have prayerfully sought ways to reopen the school safely at the appropriate time. However, with a significant decline in enrollment, a loss of some teachers, and increased operating costs, it was determined that the school could not reopen without significant financial subsidy from Lakeside. For more detail see the memo on Closing the Preschool.

Finally, but most importantly stay safe and continue to pray, for Jesus Christ died for you and He has risen. He loves you and cares for you in every way. Stay positive knowing that He is in control and while this is a difficult time for us all it will come to an end and we will be stronger and more committed in our faith than ever before. Continue to attend the virtual worship services, your daily devotions, and virtual Bible classes, for it is most important that we stay connected to Jesus.

Yours in Christ Jesus,

Bill Boos, Stewardship Chair