

March 17, 2020

Amelia Baptist Church Family and Friends,

I want to begin with an encouragement from Jesus, "Peace I leave with you. My peace I give to you. I do not give to you as the world gives. Don't let your heart be troubled or fearful." John 14:27.

I am writing this letter after consultation and in agreement with your deacon body.

Given the recommendations from President Trump and his Coronavirus task force (whitehouse.gov), Jefferson County Judge Jeff Branick's Emergency Order (co.jefferson.tx), and recommendations from the CDC (cdc.gov) we have decided to cancel ALL gatherings of Amelia Baptist Church at this time. This includes all in-person meetings on our campus and other small groups.

We will revise those decisions on a weekly basis and will communicate them to you every Tuesday throughout the COVID-19 pandemic. If necessary, I will communicate more often.

As we will not be able to worship together in person, I will share Bible studies over Facebook. This Sunday worship service will be available to you through Facebook Live at 10:45 am. I will make sure you have more information about this later in the week.

Remain in fellowship with our Lord Jesus through song, prayer, and His Word. For those of you with Sunday School curriculum please follow your lessons on your own.

I also want to encourage you to mail in your tithes and offerings to support the needs and uninterrupted operation of our church.

Please take all necessary precautions to protect yourself and others contracting and spreading the COVID-19 virus:

- Avoid gathering in groups of 10 or more people
- Practice social distancing (6 ft)
- If you have possible underlining conditions and feel like you might be susceptible to the virus remain in your home as much as possible
- Regularly wash and sanitize your hands
- If you are sick please stay home and contact medical professionals immediately

Whenever possible share the gospel with those around you and pray that many would turn to Christ for salvation. Pray that God would bring this virus to an end. Pray for all those effected by the virus. Pray for our leaders as they make decisions to slow and stop the spread of the virus. Pray for our missionaries serving around the world.

If you have any concerns or needs, please contact me by phone (409-554-5859) or email (rridgeway@ameliabaptistchurch.org).

In Christ, Robby Ridgeway Senior Pastor