



SHADOW MOUNTAIN COMMUNITY CHURCH

March 17, 2020

Dear Members and Friends of Shadow Mountain,

I am writing to you today to bring you up-to-date on the effect of the coronavirus on the ministry of our church. What is happening to us, and to all other churches, is something that has never occurred in my fifty years of ministry. The closest thing to it for me are the few Sundays that we were unable attend church, back in Fort Wayne, Indiana, because of a monster blizzard that hit our community.

As I am writing to you today, we are facing the possibility of not being able to attend our church until July or August. We are certainly hoping that we can return sooner, but these are the numbers that we are being given by the government officials.

We are going to continue to have church online as we did last weekend. Almost 30,000 people watched the service either on Saturday night or Sunday morning. Trinity Broadcasting decided to air this service on their network on Wednesday evening, and it will probably show up in other places as well. People are very anxious to know that God is in control, and that is what we are sharing.

Only our Small Groups will be meeting as usual during these coming weeks, and I urge you to support your small group with your presence and participation.

Perhaps the greatest challenge we will face going forward will be financial. Shadow Mountain operates by the free-will tithes and offerings of our people. We are a generous, giving congregation. We support almost 200 missionaries, and close to 500 people work in the ministries of Shadow Mountain. The responsibility for all of these people is overwhelming, and I am praying and working toward the goal of fully supporting every one of them.

That's where we all must be disciplined and caring. Each week when we count the offerings from the weekend services, over forty percent of it comes into our office through digital giving. These people have decided what they are going to give, and they set it up so that the money is automatically withdrawn from their account and entered into the Shadow Mountain account. You cannot possibly know how encouraging it is for us to be able to count on this income at times like this. But sixty percent of the needed funds to operate our church are given through the weekly offering collections. This is where we need to ask you to double-down and help us get through this difficult season.

Many of you will send your giving to the church through the mail. We have enclosed an envelope in this letter in case you were planning to do that. I want to ask you to really be faithful during these weeks in getting your offerings to the church business office.

Some of you will want to bring your tithes and offerings to the church. You can do this during regular business hours of the week: 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., Monday through Friday. The attendant at the main desk in the Administration Building will be prepared to receive your envelope anytime you can bring it. We will also have an attendant at the desk on Saturday and Sunday. The Administration Building is the three-story building that you see to the left as you enter the campus. Just pull into the circle, and you can deliver your giving in about three minutes' time.

If you would like to sign up for digital giving, go to ShadowMountain.org and click on the giving tab.

I am trying to be very specific about this because we do not want to fall behind during these days. We are a strong congregation, and we can weather this storm if we each do our part. Let us pray for each other that God will help us to stay strong during this time of testing.

I will do my very best to stay out in front of this and provide direction for our congregation. I would appreciate very much if you would pray for me every day.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "David Jeremiah".

David Jeremiah
Senior Pastor