

March 19, 2020

Dear Bethany Family & Friends,

If our community and our world ever needed a “New Beginning,” I think everybody would agree that it’s right now! So let’s be that **“Place of New Beginnings”** that our world needs us to be! We look to **JESUS OUR RESCUER** to **help us help others!**

<sup>1</sup> **I raise my eyes to fix my gaze on You,**  
for Your throne resides in the heavens.  
<sup>2</sup> **In the same way we look to You, Eternal One,**  
**waiting for our God to pour out His mercy upon us.**  
<sup>3</sup> **O Eternal One, show us Your mercy. We beg You.**

PSALM 123:1-3 (The Voice)

**...expectantly [we] await the arrival of his Son,**  
whom he raised from the dead —  
**Jesus, who rescued us from certain doom.**

1 THESSALONIANS 1:9-10 (The Message)

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**JOIN US ONLINE FOR OUR WORSHIP SERVICE EVERY SUNDAY MORNING!**

Last Sunday many of you came out for our first-ever “social distancing” worship services (about a hundred people between the two services...sitting six feet apart)! In addition, we offered our first-ever **Live-Streaming** worship service on **FACEBOOK LIVE!** I was flabbergasted to learn that we had **387 people** watch last Sunday’s service, with over 60 people responding with comments (mostly “thank you for having a service”), and **615 people** saw what we were doing!

In the current pandemic, we want to self-isolate or self-quarantine out of precaution for our safety and the safety of others. **We will be Live-Streaming our 10:30 Sunday worship service again this Sunday** — and this time we will offer it on two platforms, **FACEBOOK LIVE** and **YOUTUBE!** And **we will continue to Live-Stream our services for the foreseeable future,** because **we want to keep you spiritually connected and growing.**

Please go to our website at [www.bethanyonline.net](http://www.bethanyonline.net) and click the **“Live-Stream our Sunday Service”** button to find out how to watch.

To make this possible, we need to quickly invest in some technical equipment (video camera, dedicated computer, software, etc.), so we are asking for some over-and-above financial gifts. We are gathering bids, but right now it looks like our costs for a no-frills set up will be around \$2,000-3,000. Would you prayerfully consider a gift to make this happen?

**WE WANT TO ENCOURAGE YOU ONLINE EVERY DAY!**

We have created a new tool to lift you up and build you up spiritually while we are apart. Please go to our website at [www.bethanyonline.net](http://www.bethanyonline.net) and click the **“Encouragement for Today”** button — Pastor Brandon or I will be refreshing this web page every day!

**WE WANT TO CONNECT WITH AND PRAY FOR EACH ONE OF YOU...REGULARLY!**

Please take a moment right now to reply to this message and **give us your emergency contact information** — **your cell phone number and your email address** — so we can keep in contact with you. (Of course, you can also email us any time at [info@bethanyonline.net](mailto:info@bethanyonline.net).)

We would also love to hear from you. **Please let us know:**

1. **How are you doing** during this time (spiritually, physically, emotionally, mentally)?
2. **How can we pray for you?**
3. **What are you thanking God for** during this crazy time in our lives?
4. Might there be 3 or 4 other members that you would be willing to connect with, encourage and pray for during this season?

**WE NEED YOUR GENEROUS AND FAITHFUL GIVING MORE THAN EVER!**

We need your generous and faithful tithes and offerings. We aren't able to meet in person for worship services or ministry gatherings. But our staff is still working — more than ever during this season! — and our ministries are ongoing and even intensifying. Your faithful tithes and offerings are the lifeblood of our church.

Please go to our website at [www.bethanyonline.net](http://www.bethanyonline.net) and click the “3 Ways to Give” button to give online, safely and securely. You can also mail a check to the office. We can't meet in person for the time being, but our church still needs your faithful tithes.

For those blessed to continue receiving an income...praise the Lord! Give generously. For those whose income has been adversely affected...we pray to **THE LORD OUR PROVIDER** that He would pour out financial blessings on you, open up new revenue streams, and I believe that “my God will meet all your needs according to the riches of his glory in Christ Jesus” (Phil. 4:19). If you are able, and if God has blessed, we hope that some of you can even increase what you are giving — to provide for our ongoing ministries, staff salaries, other fixed expenses, and to help us reach out to those who aren't working, are on a very limited budget, or are in need of food or supplies.

This isn't so others can take it easy while you sweat it out; ***the objective is to use this opportunity today to supply their needs out of your abundance.***

**One day it may be the other way around,**  
and they will need to supply your needs from what they have.

2 CORINTHIANS 8:13-14 (The Message; & The Voice)

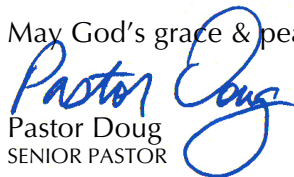
**WE NEED YOUR FERVENT AND FAITHFUL PRAYERS MORE THAN EVER!**

I ask each of you to please pray. Pray for our pastors, leaders and staff. We are having to make decisions very quickly — we are trying to be “fast, fluid and flexible.” Pray for our church. Pray for our school. Pray for our ministries. Pray for our online worship services — ***may we touch many people with the life and love of Jesus!*** Pray for our members and regular attenders. Pray for our people who are “most vulnerable” to this pernicious virus (60+; compromised immune systems; serious medical conditions). **Please email us at [prayer@bethanyonline.net](mailto:prayer@bethanyonline.net) if you would like to receive our weekly PRAYER SUPPORT SHEET.**

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**Bethany Family — I love you. I am praying for you. Please stay connected! Please give! Please pray!**

May God's grace & peace be lavished on you on your family,

  
Pastor Doug  
SENIOR PASTOR