

HERE AND NOW

WHAT'S HAPPENING
AT PHBC

MARCH 15, 2020

IMPORTANT: We are actively monitoring the COVID-19 situation, and want everyone to be aware that all announcements and dates listed in this newsletter are subject to change.

PERFECT PEACE BY: DAN ADAMS

Uncertainty and the unknown are two things with which we're often not comfortable.

It's during times of uncertainty that our minds can wonder and wander to worst case scenarios. The unknown can tempt us to be anxious and afraid.

The COVID-19 (coronavirus) situation we currently face is filled with both uncertainty and the unknown. While the Bible doesn't address the coronavirus, it does give us comforting direction when we're tempted to be anxious or fearful.

The words of Paul in Philippians have become some of my favorite encouragements during times like this.

Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, rejoice. Let your reasonableness be known to everyone. The Lord is at hand; do not be anxious about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus. (Philippians 4:4-7, emphasis added)

Let your reasonableness be known to everyone.

Paul encourages us to be reasonable, sensible, and practical. At times like these, we need to let our informed minds lead when our emotions are tempted to freak out. Our response to difficult situations communicates a lot to a lost and dying world. If we react in fear, we communicate that we don't trust God when it counts the most. When we have reasonable responses, we demonstrate our faith that God is always in control. Paul instructs us, "God gave us a spirit not of fear but of power and love and self-control." (2 Timothy 1:7)

- A reasonable response includes getting timely and accurate information from reputable sources, and avoiding overblown hype from sources that thrive and profit from viewers and clicks.

Do not be anxious about anything...

Being anxious and worried about situations we can't control accomplishes nothing. Anxiety is often a vicious cycle of mentally rehearsing worst case scenarios, many of which have little connection to reality.

- Let's replace our *anxious* energy with efforts toward being *alert* without being controlled by fear.

But in everything by prayer...

While we may not be able to control the circumstances around us, we do know the One who is in control of all things. We can come to Him through prayer, sharing our concerns and asking for His help and comfort.

- When we're tempted to be anxious or fearful, take that as a prompt to talk to God in prayer.

The peace of God, which surpasses all understanding...

God promises His peace that goes beyond all understanding. That's a wonderful truth. In uncertain times, it doesn't make any sense and goes beyond understanding to have peace. And yet this is what God promises. He goes on to promise that His peace will guard our hearts and our *minds*. Isn't that exactly where we need help and protection?

- Jesus is the *Prince of Peace*. It's a choice to trust Him to bring peace to our hearts and minds.

We can't predict the future, and we don't know what tomorrow may hold. But we do know the God who is always in control. We have the Prince of Peace with us at all times. It's my prayer that you rest securely in these truths today.

"Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you. Not as the world gives do I give to you. Let not your hearts be troubled, neither let them be afraid." (Jesus, John 14:27)



MISSIONS PRAYER FOCUS



Elaine Idoine has been serving with YWAM in South Africa for a number of years. While there, she did a lot of training to care for HIV patients. For the last three years she has been in Lesotho. She feels that it is a good fit for her. She has a weekly Bible study with about 2-6 people attending. She also volunteers twice a week at an orphanage. Elaine will be coming home for a few months

this summer. Please pray for safe travels for her. Pray for her work in Lesotho and also for her health.

PRAYER THOUGHTS

...they raised their voices in prayer to God (Acts 4:24b).

After they prayed, the place where they were meeting was shaken. And they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and spoke the word of God boldly (Acts 4:31).

So Peter was kept in prison, but the church was earnestly praying to God for him (Acts 12:5).

Peter said, "Now I know without a doubt that the Lord sent His angel and rescued me from Herod's clutches" (Acts 12:11).

When the believers in early church prayed, they witnessed the power of the Holy Spirit.



CHILDREN'S MINISTRY

A quick reminder about the Children's Check-In system and what to expect. When you put your phone number into the system at the kiosk areas, check your child into the class they will be attending and print your tags, you will receive a tag for each child and 2 pick-up tags for the parents. The large numbers and letters on the right of your child's tag is your security code for that day. The parent receipt will have the same security code and should be shown or worn when picking up your children from class. The small number next to their name is the child's number for that day. If for any reason, we need you to address any needs of your child, their number will appear in the number box above the organ in the worship center. If your child's number appears, just come to their classroom where we will be waiting to meet you.

New guests should be taken to the welcome area, where the guest ambassadors will take their information to be put into the system. Once it's entered in the system, tags can be printed out. Guest information must first be put into the system before they are able to print out their child's name tags at the kiosks.

Thank you to all of you who have been patient in learning this new system. It has helped tremendously to identify and keep our children safe.

Have you heard? It's coming! The largest summer outreach for our children and families is just around the corner. Put July 20-24 on your calendar and plan to get involved in making an impact for all eternity in the lives of others at Kids Summer Shake-Up. We've been praying and planning since last summer. We have many places to serve, whether it be with preschoolers, elementary age group leaders, support areas, or the activity areas. There's something for everyone! Don't miss this awesome opportunity to serve our Lord together. On March 29, you will have your first chance to sign up to help. So begin praying and asking God to show you how you can be used by Him in this exciting ministry. You'll be glad you did.

YOUTH MINISTRY

The Bake Sale scheduled for Voting Day, Tuesday, March 17, has been cancelled.

MEN'S MINISTRY

Men, join us for Bangers and Bangers (shooting and brats) on Friday, March 20 from 4:00 to 9:00pm. We will be shooting at Stonewall Range, but we will start across the street at 305 Ken Mar Industrial Parkway in Broadview Heights. All men are welcome. For more information, contact Dan Buncher.

DISCIPLESHIP MINISTRY

The "Who Stole My Church?" study has been postponed until further notice.

Our new Groups options can be found online at www.phbaptist.org/groups. You can find details about each type of Group (Growth, Community, and Connect) and sign up through the website. You can also pick up a copy of the Spring 2020 Groups Catalog on the literature shelf.

CONNECTIONS MINISTRY

Are you new to PHBC? Do you have questions about the church and ministry? We invite you to pick up one of our new guest packets located in the welcome center or glass walkway. The packets include information about PHBC, a small book explaining what it means to follow Christ, and a short survey to learn how we can serve you better.

Sunday, March 29, following the 11:00am service, is the Connections Ministry's next Plug In. During this short session, Tim Hunsicker will bring updates about the Connections Ministry, prepare you for Easter and Kids Summer Shake-Up, and give some quick training tips. This is for anyone currently or interested in serving with the following: Guest Connect Team, Greeters, Guest Ambassadors, Coffee Crew, Welcome Center Set Up Team, Shuttle Service Team, Welcome Center Host, Parking Lot Team.

Tuesday, April 21 is the Cleveland Pregnancy Center's Annual Banquet held at Michaud's Event Center in Strongsville. If you are interested in donating an experience or unique gift for their silent auction, contact the CPC at 216.631.0964 or visit their website at www.clevelandpregnancycenter.org.

Sunday, March 15 is the last day to get Early Bird registration for The City Mission's 9th Annual Running With a Mission 5K, 1 Mile Walk, and Kids Dash. This year's event will be riverside at the East Bank of the Flats with an enjoyable view of the city. As always, this is a family-friendly affair, so we'll have music, kids activities, and more to make it a fun experience for everyone. Join the fun on Saturday, June 13. PHBC has formed a team to run, walk and volunteer at this year's event. If you are interested in participating or giving towards the fundraising goal or participating visit <https://www.thecitymission.org/run/>. Search for team "PHBC Life" and join us!



HOW WILL YOU SERVE?

We are looking for volunteers for our parlor renovation project starting on Monday, March 16. We will be working weekdays from 9:00am to 4:30pm, and Monday, Tuesday, and Thursday evenings from 5:00pm to 8:00pm. If possible, we might have Friday and Saturday evening shifts as well. If you're interested in participating, please contact Dan Buncher at church or at dbuncher@phbaptist.org.

ACADEMY AND PRESCHOOL UPDATE

In compliance with Governor DeWine's state mandate, Parma Heights Christian Academy and Sonshine Preschool will remain closed through April 3.

PARMA HEIGHTS CHRISTIAN ACADEMY

Before you go shopping, stop by the glass walkway table to purchase your shopping cards! Thank you for supporting our school through this program.

Parma Heights Christian Academy is hiring! If you or someone you know would be interested in applying for a position, please contact Jen Robinson in the PHCA office at 440.845.8668 or office@phcawarriors.com. Teachers are required to have a valid teaching license through the state of Ohio, or the ability to obtain one prior to employment. There is an immediate need for **Substitute Teachers** (half days and full days available). There will also be an opening for a **Physical Education Teacher** (part-time).

Enrollment for Parma Heights Christian Academy is now open for prospective families. PHCA is a Kindergarten through 6th grade school that focuses on academic excellence within Christ-centered classrooms. Our students begin each day in God's Word before beginning their regular curriculum subjects. PHCA also offers a variety of specials classes in conjunction with our core subjects, including physical education, computer, library, art and music/band. A variety of athletic programs are offered for 5th and 6th grade students. We also provide speech and intervention services, as well as a gifted program for advanced learners. The school day is from 8:15am to 2:50pm. PHCA has before school care available for students beginning at 7:00am at no cost and an affordable after school care beginning at 3:15pm. Hot lunch is offered Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays for \$3 per meal. For more information or to schedule a tour, please contact Jen Robinson at 440.845.8668, or check out our website at www.phcawarriors.com.

MARCH						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
		17			20	
					27	

TUESDAY, MARCH 17

Voting Day

FRIDAY, MARCH 20

Bangers and Bangers – 4:00pm

FRIDAY, MARCH 27

Building is closed.

HEALTH AND SAFETY UPDATE

At PHBC, the well-being of our church family is a top priority: spiritually, mentally, emotionally, and physically. Many are concerned with the Coronavirus (COVID-19) outbreak as well as the annual flu season. We're sharing the following information and recommendations so that you can understand how we're preparing and to encourage you to take proper precautions.

What you can do – Best practices for reducing the spread of germs: Everyone can help in stopping the spread of viruses through the following best practices.

- Wash your hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds. When soap and water are unavailable, use a hand sanitizer that is at least 60% alcohol-based.
- Avoid contact with people who are sick. We ask that you refrain from shaking hands.
- Cover your cough or sneeze with a tissue, then throw it away in the trash. Cough or sneeze into your elbow if a tissue is unavailable.
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose, and mouth.
- Clean and disinfect frequently touched objects and surfaces.
- If you are at higher risk due to age or underlying health conditions, keep space between yourself and others.
- For more information, visit <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/about/prevention.html>.

What PHBC is doing – Facility preparation and sanitization: We have ample supplies of antibacterial soap and hand sanitizer located throughout our facility. We are taking prudent precautionary measures and have bolstered our sanitization routines.

These regular routines include:

- Sanitization of all bathrooms, sinks, paper towel dispensers, and soap dispensers.
- Sanitization of all surfaces in classrooms, bathrooms, and meetings spaces.
- Deep cleaning of classrooms during changeovers from the school week to worship services.
- Sanitization of all spaces used during voting on 3/17/20.
- Special attention is given to children's ministry spaces.

Determining if you should stay home:

- This is a personal decision, but impacts many others if you choose to go out while ill. If you, your child, or someone in your care is sick, please stay home, for your own wellbeing and out of love for others.
- Consider seeking medical care over riding it out.
- People at higher risk may want to avoid exposure from public gatherings.

PHBC Online:

- If you are unable to attend a worship service, please worship with us online through our Livestream. You can worship with us live at 11:00am, or at a later time from the recordings.
- The PHBC Livestream is available on Facebook at www.facebook.com/parmaheightsbaptistchurch/, or on YouTube by searching for "PHBC Media".
- You're still able to worship through secure online giving on our website, www.phbaptist.org, or through the GivePlus app, available in your phone's app store.

How to know if worship services are cancelled:

- We are actively monitoring this situation, and will honor governmental recommendations and mandates with regard to public gatherings.
- In the case of any closing, we will utilize: email, social media, the office answering machine, and church website to communicate clearly.
- Closings will be announced on local news networks.
- In the absence of any such announcement, we will hold all regularly scheduled services and programs.



SUNDAY WORSHIP SERVICES

8:15 & 9:30am *Classic* | 11:00am *Contemporary*

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