

To mitigate the spread of the coronavirus, Calvary United Methodist Church will be cancelling activities and reduce hours for the period Saturday, March 14 through Saturday, March 28. This is in accordance with guidance of Gov. Larry Hogan and Bishop LaTrelle Easterling of the United Methodist Church. During the next two weeks we will not be holding public worship services, Sunday School, or other activities in the church building. This will include Sunday March 15 and Sunday, March 22. We hope to be able to hold worship services again on Sunday, March 29.

The Calvary Weekday School will be closed between Monday, March 16 to Friday, March 27.

We are following the advice of public health officials at the Maryland Department of Health and Federal Center for Disease Control to mitigate the spread of the coronavirus. This is particularly important since there are many people in the congregation who are elderly or have underlying medical conditions that put them particularly at risk. The activities that will be cancelled include: the Lenten Study, Tuesday Bible Study, Choir and bell rehearsals and the finance committee, and youth group. The pastors will not be able to visit the hospital, retirement centers or nursing homes in person during this period, but they are happy to contact people by telephone.

Rev. Steve Larsen, Rev Shannon Sullivan, and Joche Wilmot will be providing ways for members of the church to still have a connection with the church during this period online for worship and personal enrichment. We will be recording sermons, the Lenten Study presentations, music and hymns as well as providing some reflections and thoughts via the church Facebook page, website and emails. Previous worship services are also available on the church website at [www.calvaryumc.org](http://www.calvaryumc.org).

During the time, we also want to be particularly aware of the challenges that this disruption will make for particular parts of our congregation. Families with younger children at home may need help with child care during the weeks that the public schools are closed. Older youth in the church may be interested in providing childcare or baby-sitting. If you fall into either group, please contact Pastor Shannon and she will help make connections (410-937-8835 or [revshannon@calvaryumc.org](mailto:revshannon@calvaryumc.org)) Those seniors that may need help with errands or groceries can contact Rev. Ken Humbert ([revkenh@starpower.net](mailto:revkenh@starpower.net) or 443-289-8446) or Rev. Steve Larsen ([revsteve@calvaryumc.org](mailto:revsteve@calvaryumc.org) 301-848-8216) for assistance.