March 18, 2020

Dear Church Family,

This week, I have found myself meditating on the following stanzas

“O God, our help in ages past,
Our hope for years to come,
Our shelter from the stormy blast,
And our eternal home!”

In his majestic hymn, Isaac Watts (1674-1748) captured the infinitude of God in contrast to the finitude of humanity in his metrical paraphrase of Psalm 90. The witness of the psalm—a witness made to God, perhaps even made against God—is that for humanity to find true hope for today and true strength for tomorrow, we can only turn to the eternal Lord. During these unprecedented times, we are all searching for hope. Sheltered in our homes, we trawl for news online wondering when we will “flatten the curve.” Sequestered from group contact, we all, (whisper it) even introverts, feel a dull rising ache for human contact. These are strange times; these are unnerving times; yet, as a Community of hope, we hold to the concrete, particular promises that begin Psalm 91—that in stormy times, God is our ever-present shelter, our safe refuge, our strong fortress, and our quiet place of soul rest.

Still, although we are assured of Divine comfort, you might be wondering: How can we experience community during this time? The pastoral staff has been working hard to create options for you. The following are a list of ways to stay together, though we are apart:

1. Join us every Sabbath via the live stream at 11:40 am. Gather your family and join us with your voice and heart in your homes. We can still make glad melodies and agree in prayer wherever we are. Here is the live stream link: Online Worship Service

2. Find a Sabbath School group. Many of our Sabbath School classes are finding creative ways to meet virtually. Check out our website for a list of classes that will meet: www.church The Sabbath School lesson for the second quarter is available at the west and south entrances of the church. It is also online: Sabbath School Net

3. Login to the church directory on our website. Church Directory The username is uchurch and the password is 1access23. Please call at least one person per week. If you would like a printed copy of the directory, call our office at 509-527-2800 or email us at
church@wallawalla.edu and we will mail one to you. We are making a limited number of hard copies available during this time.

4. Would you like prayer or just someone to talk to? The pastors have been making calls, but that doesn't mean you can’t reach out to us. Please call or email the church office. One of the pastors will be in touch with you shortly.

5. Do you need anything like groceries? Please call or send us an email, and a pastor will arrange assistance for you.

Some of you have been asking, how can I return my tithes and offerings? The church office is closed to the public until further notice. However, there are several giving options:

1. You can continue to partner with us with your tithes and offerings by going to Adventist Giving Online. If you have never used our online option, but would like help setting it up, please call our treasurer’s office at 509-527-2823.

2. You can give directly to the local church budget via Cash App.

3. There is now a drop box outside of the south door, the entrance that faces the old Rogers field. It is secure and will be checked regularly by our church treasurer. In a week or so, we will have a second drop box that is ADA accessible by the west entrance, facing the Canaday Technology Center (CTC) building.

4. This letter has a tithe envelope and a pre-stamped return envelope with the church’s address. If you would like for us to send you more envelopes for tithes and offerings, please call or email the church office.

May God’s gracious best, continue to be yours.

Andreas Beccai
Lead Pastor