

## **2020-03-13 Coronavirus Email-Website Posting**

Dear Erie Shores Family:

As the situation with the Coronavirus (COVID-19) continues to develop, we wanted to let you know that the staff at Erie Shores are paying close attention to developments as they occur. We are staying updated with communications from local, state, and national organizations and will follow any guidelines recommended by these organizations or local health authorities.

We want to make you aware of precautions we are currently taking to protect against COVID-19. At this time, **our church remains open** during normal business hours and we are continuing to hold both Sunday morning worship services, Sunday evening activities, and smaller-group gatherings throughout the week. We take the health and well-being of our church family seriously. To that end, we want to update you on the safety guidelines we have in place as concerns grow regarding the spread of COVID-19.

While many of these safety guidelines are in place year-round, they are especially important during parts of the year with elevated concerns about spreading germs. Though there have been no reports of COVID-19 within our church family, we want to share our existing wellness plan, as well as, a few of the additional precautions we are making throughout the remainder of the flu season to ease any concerns that you may have.

### **Your Health and Safety is Paramount**

- Please stay home on Sunday morning or evening if you or any of your family members have any type of symptoms of coughing, sneezing, fever, nausea, achiness, or any flu-like symptom. Educate yourself on the [COVID-19 symptoms](#) at the websites linked below. If your children or teens have these symptoms, they should not be checked into any of the King's Kids ministries.
- As you remain home to recover from your illness, let our office know so we can pray and encourage you. With any illness, we love you and are here to support you. Please do not hesitate to share your need with us.
- Nutrition, Sleep, and Exercise. A healthy immune system can head off disease, or lessen its symptoms. Please continue to eat mindfully nutritious meals, plan to get at least 6-8 hours of sleep per night, and maintain any exercise program in which you are currently engaged.

## **Prevention is Key**

- Wash your hands while you're on and off the church campus. The CDC recommends hand washing precautions similar to those that are taken to prevent the spread of the flu by [frequently washing hands for 20 seconds](#), and avoid touching your face, nose and eyes. Parents, speak to your children about proper handwashing, especially length of washing hands.
- All common areas used in the church will continue to be cleaned and disinfected before Sunday and weekly gatherings. If you see an area that looks unsanitary, please let our office know.

## **In Person Changes**

There are a number of things our ministries are doing to keep us safe while we are together.

- In order to confidently welcome all of our guests, we are asking them to welcome you hands-free.
- King's Kids will follow the same guidelines for maintaining a germ-free environment.
- We will openly communicate with you. If the need arises, we are prepared to temporarily suspend activities, services and offer an online alternative.

We understand that uncertainty can create fear, but we want you to know that our "God has not given us a spirit of fear and timidity, but of power, love, and self-discipline (2 Tim 1:7). As the church of Jesus Christ, we can show our faith through this time that while we are preparing carefully, we do not lose sight of our ultimate mission to provide access to Jesus and His kingdom in whatever way necessity dictates.

Thank you for all you do and for your understanding. Our number one concern is for your safety. Please let us know if you have questions or specific concerns.

With love,

Pastor Harry  
Erie Shores Board

## **PS: Updates**

As the situation develops, it is important for all of us to stay up to date on the latest information. To that end, the following links may help you understand what is happening in our area, as well as the region, country, and beyond.

- [coronavirus.ohio.gov](https://coronavirus.ohio.gov)
- [Centers for Disease Control and Prevention \(cdc.gov\)](https://www.cdc.gov)
- [World Health Organization](https://www.who.int)