

Friday, March 27, 2020

Greetings in the blessed name of the Lord Jesus Christ,

On behalf of the Session of United Presbyterian Church of Plainfield, this message announces the temporary closing of this building, 525 E. Front Street, until further notice. We have made this decision in response to the mandate issued by the State of New Jersey to close all nonessential services and our desire to do our part in curbing the spreading of the coronavirus.

On Wednesday, March 25, 2020, the UPC session approved following the motion:

“This building is closed to all groups and individuals with the exception of appropriate personnel performing business critical functions. All churches are prohibited from conducting worship services in the building until further notice. Other organizations may conduct limited business in accordance with the State of New Jersey guidelines. These temporary changes will inconvenience all. However, they do not stop us from doing what we are called to do. Thank God for new technology that makes it possible for us to serve, by using social media and other platforms to continue our weekly activities.”

In the words of Christ as recorded in John 4:21-23, God is not concerned about “where” one worships, but “how” one worships. Some groups have found relief by using WEBEX, Zoom, Podcasts and YouTube for communications to masses and electronic funds transfer through Apps such as Givelify.

Social Service organizations will need to use their extensive expertise to find ways to provide essential services for our most vulnerable populations. Those organizations providing food will need to employ their Emergency Operations Plan (EOP), and unfortunately suspend some service to remain in compliance to the governmental mandates.

While some do not fear contracting the coronavirus, it is impossible to know who the carriers of the virus are. To protect everyone, and especially those most susceptible, the building is hereby closed. You will be contacted immediately, when the state of emergency is lifted.

Questions or concerns regarding this closure may be addressed to the session by contacting Pat Perry executive assistant at 908-756-2666.

In the meantime, may the Spirit of the Living God continue to rest, rule, and abide with us all.

Yours in Christ,

Al Tate, Clerk of Session