



STATE OF UTAH

GARY R. HERBERT
GOVERNOR

OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR
SALT LAKE CITY, UTAH
84114-2220

SPENCER J. COX
LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR

March 19, 2020

Dear Faith Leaders,

This has been a challenging week for our state. We are facing the spread of coronavirus in our communities, and on Wednesday, we experienced a 5.7 magnitude earthquake, as well as numerous aftershocks. These events have had significant effects on all of us and most certainly amongst the most vulnerable Utahns.

It is my firm belief that many Utahns would benefit from feeling the comforting hand of God in their lives during these times of fear and uncertainty.

I ask you to join me in inviting your congregations to participate in a special weekend of prayer and service this coming weekend, March 20-22. I know many of you were already aware of President Donald J. Trump's declaration of a National Day of Prayer this past Sunday, March 15. Continuation of daily prayer regarding these issues is also strongly recommended.

We encourage Utahns to pray for guidance, comfort, patience, and healing as we face the COVID-19 pandemic, and we encourage them to pray for their families and friends. I also ask all Utahns to perform one or acts of service for someone in need of their help this weekend. We strongly recommend that these acts of service should happen in ways that will not increase the risk of contagion. Some examples could include leaving bread on a neighbor's doorstep or leaving a note for an anxious friend.

At the state level, we are doing our best to keep our citizens safe and healthy. We can all do our part to prevent community spread of COVID-19 through social distancing, frequent hand washing, and other preventative measures. As you know, we are encouraging all businesses to allow their employees to work from home when possible, limit mass gatherings to under 10 people, and our educational institutions are moving to online instruction. To help limit the spread of the virus in public places, Utah's restaurants are not allowing dine-in services at this time.

For more information about the ever-changing COVID-19 pandemic, please visit <https://coronavirus.utah.gov/>

We will get through these hard times, particularly as we come together as a community, and as we hold to our faith in God. I thank you for the unique and essential role you play in our communities and for all your service that you give on a daily basis.

Sincerely,

Gary R. Herbert
Governor