



The Church in 皮斯卡特维 *Piscataway* 召会周讯 Weekly News

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Dear brothers and sisters,

New Jersey had its first COVID-19 patient the past Monday and the number has increased since then. The number of confirmed cases increases more rapidly in New York, and the NY governor just declared the state of emergency Saturday (3/7) due to the obvious community spread. CDC expects more cases will be detected across the country. We believe that to implement some precautionary measures of prevention will help protect our church members. It is a responsible manner toward the community and also safeguard our church life from unnecessary anxiety and keep the enjoyment of Christ as the focus of our gatherings.

For this purpose, we will implement several practices in our church life temporarily until the potential hazard of COVID-19 significantly diminishes.

1. From now on, the Table serving brothers will wear disposable gloves and will cover the Bread and Cup with plastic wrap during prayers before breaking the Bread and serving. After the Bread is broken, it will be dispensed into individual portions to be served to the saints, similar to how the Cup is served.
2. Starting from next Lord's Day (3/15), we will temporarily stop our lunch service after meeting. Please arrange your own lunch.
3. Use hand sanitizer or wash hands as soon as entering the meeting hall. Avoid handshaking and any other body contacts.
4. Cleaning service saints will start using alcohol to sanitize selected areas as part of service.
5. If you traveled overseas recently, please follow the US government's guidance. Depending on to the countries you have visited, you may be asked for self-quarantine or health monitor. We will also ask you not to come to any church meetings or related activities and minimize contact with others if in the past 14 days you were in the countries/locations that CDC issued travel alert for. Currently it includes China, Iran, South Korea, Italy, Japan, and Hong Kong. If you have any symptoms of respiratory illness (fever, sore throat, cough, or shortness of breath) during these two weeks, please seek medical assistance immediately.
6. Anyone who has any symptoms of respiratory illness, please seek medical assistance immediately, even you have never traveled overseas. Please avoid public places or contacting others until completely recovered.
7. In addition, if you have been in close contact with those who recently came from the above high-risk countries/locations or might have contacted with COVID-19 patients, you should stay home and avoid public places for 14 days and until there is no symptom shown for 14 days.

Please continue to pray that the disease can be restricted soon.

*In Christ,
Serving brothers in the Church in Piscataway*

Announcement:

1. Sister Shang-Ling Liu was baptized last evening 3/7 during the gospel meeting at Piscataway meeting hall. May the Lord cover them and bless her Christian life. May we continue to have the burden of gospel preaching.
2. District prayer meeting on the coming Tuesday 3/10 is scheduled at district meeting locations starting from 8 PM. We encourage the saints to separate time to attend.
3. Book order of new morning revivals of 2020-2021 starts. If you want to subscribe new standing order of morning revival, you may place order through small group serving brother or at bookroom. The cost of new standing order of morning revival is \$40 for a total of 8 books.
4. Young working saints and young families blending, 3/20-3/21, at KPCC. Online Registration link is included in the weekly prayer list
5. Young people's conference, 4/9~4/12, at KPCC. This conference will be primarily for junior high and high school age young people, however, college age young people are welcomed and will be accommodated as long as space allows.
6. Corporate book pursuit this week:
Life Study of Derteronomy (Chapter 19~20).
7. Please continue to pray for the coronavirus epidemic globally. We also want to remind all the saints that during this period of time for gatherings in the meeting hall please refrain from handshaking and hugging (including kids). Please wash hands and use hand sanitizer frequently. Masks and gloves are required for food serving saints.

8. Today's food service: District C; cleaning service: P1, P8. For serving saints, please stay and serve.

Prayer Burdens:

1. COVID-19 (Coronavirus) -

- A. Pray that the epidemic can be subdued soon globally and that the gospel can reach to more.
- B. Pray that the Lord will protect all the saints and local churches from the virus and strength our faith in Him.
- C. Pray that the Lord will preserve the normal church life here in Piscataway from any distraction from the disease.

2. RU students' spring break trip to Southern California -

- A. Pray for the containment of the current outbreak in S.C..
- B. Pray for the Lord to cover and protect each saint on the trip.
- C. Pray for the students to have a good experience during the short term training in FTFA, and may the Lord personally speak to them concerning the training.
- D. Pray for a good blending in the Body.

3. The practice of Godman Family -

- A. Pray that all the relationships in every household can be proper through every member being filled in spirit and subject to one another - wives and husbands, parents and children.
- B. Pray that all the spouses can become prayer partners, praying for the family, the church, and the Lord's interests.

Sharing the Enjoyment: Sisters' Blending Conference in NYC on Feb. 29th



Sharing 1:

It's been a week since the sisters conference on 2/29, but I am still enjoying all the sisters' sharing and the brothers' speaking this week. While I sat in the room with over 500 sisters and watched the brothers served food in the kitchen, I was reminded that it is the Lord's grace and mercy that I'm able to sit here and enjoy Him with the body.

Although there were so many powerful and touching testimonies, I was appreciated of the brothers' burden to open our eyes to see the many powerful women in the Bible. In today's society, young girls and women are looking up to role models in the entertainment and sports industry. Movements like #MeToo, feminism, and women empowerment are encouraging girls and women to look up to Olympians, politicians or celebrities as role models. While these women are attractive and inspirational, I always have to remind myself that their thoughts, morals and values are that of the world and not of God. Hence, I'm so relieved and happy to realize that I don't need to search for role models in this corrupted society. Rather, I can look up to Esther, Mary, Persis, Deborah, Martha, Prisca, Aquila, and Phoebe, as these sisters were bold, brave, loved the Lord. They took the lead but with the proper submission for God's people and His economy.

Mary and Persis spent their time laboring in the Lord. Deborah took the lead with the proper covering and had great resolutions in heart. Phoebe was a deaconess and patroness of the many, as well as trusted by Paul. Esther, who is my favorite, was bold when it came to fighting for her people. Her words, "When this is done, I will go the King, even though it is against the law, And if I perish, I perish" showed her bravery and faith in the Lord. Similar to Esther who was willing to sacrifice her life for God's people, Prisca and Aquila were absolute for the churches. Their only interest was the church and they were willing to risk the own necks for the Lord. And of course, Martha. I've never had a good impression of Martha, as I always remembered her as the one who complained to the Lord. However, when the brother said, "We need more Marthas" I was stunned by this statement. The brother emphasized that sisters need to be Martha in a sense of serving! While Martha was a complainer, she always served the Lord with a true heart.

Praise the Lord for sisters like Mary, Persis, Deborah, Phoebe, Esther, Prisca, Aquila, Martha and all the other wonderful women in the Bible. Praise the Lord for sisters, as we preserve and maintain life in the Body of Christ.

Sharing 2:

It's amazing to know how important sisters are in the church life. Brother Ricky shared that If the sisters are healthy, the church life is healthy. Brothers are like bones of the body and sisters is the blood. Both are indispensable. The main function of sisters is not to cook nor hospitality, but to preserve and maintain life as we can see from the stories of Moses, Esther and so forth.

So, Practically, How can sisters carry out the responsibility for the church life?

1. Love — sister should take the lead to love the Lord. In the bible, we see many sisters poured out for the Lord with their beings and possessions.
2. Sacrifice — no one sacrifices more than a mother. They put themselves aside, do everything for others. This requires taking up the cross. All sisters and even brothers should learn to be nursing mothers in the church life.
3. Pray — I can get distracted easily by the differences among individuals and incline to criticize or murmur. I also gossip and even get annoyed when I am not the first to know something. The brother exhorts us not to criticize nor to gossip. It's a blessing to be the last one to know something. Learn to say "I don't know and I don't mind" to gossip! PRAY and think the same thing, do not gossip.
4. Salt — Sisters being salt could bring flavors to the church life, but have to have the proper spirit (proper amount of salt).