Dear Greenbrier Nazarene Church Family,

As good stewards of our own health and the health and safety of our church community, we feel it necessary to address the COVID-19 Virus that is now present in central Arkansas. We recognize that many are concerned about the impact of this virus on their safety and wellbeing. We want to be wise in our response, while not creating unnecessary anxiety among those in our church and our community. Our highest concern is for those who are particularly vulnerable – those who may be elderly, immune deficient, or already unwell.

We are paying close attention to the recommendations from the CDC, state officials, and local officials and will be following any guidelines that are given from those organizations. If there are specific things that we can do to slow down the spread of this virus, we want to do it.

Here are the measures that we are taking as a community of faith:

1. We are implementing a NO HANDSHAKING POLICY for the foreseeable future. We understand that for some, physical contact such as hugging and shaking hands is a way of building community and relationships. Yet out of concern for the most vulnerable, please do not shake the hands of people at church.

2. We are encouraging everyone to WASH YOUR HANDS often and well, especially before and after worship or public gatherings.

3. For the time being, we WILL NOT be dismissing any worship services or special events. We encourage all of our church to continue being active members of our faith community. But if you feel unwell, or have had known contact with someone who has tested positive for the COVID-19 virus, we encourage you to stay at home. Our sermons will continue to be posted online every Tuesday.

In the unlikely event that we must dismiss services due to recommendations from local officials, we will live stream a gathering on our Facebook page. As of right now we have no plans to do so, and we are not anticipating the need for such measures.

Please pray for all of those who have been impacted by this virus, and their families.

As a body of faith we are called to be the image of Christ, meaning that we must take steps to ensure the health and prosperity of the most vulnerable in our communities. Greenbrier Nazarene will continue to pursue this example in all that we do.

With much love,

Greenbrier Nazarene Staff