

Coronavirus (Covid-19) Update

As our people continue to experience very unusual days brought on by the scourge of the coronavirus, we find ourselves making some pretty dramatic changes in our lives that effect our families and communities. The idea of 'social distancing' and 'stay at home' orders seems so strange and we pray that this new normal will be very temporary indeed. However, in accordance with the declarations from our governmental leaders and public health experts to remain at home, the Texico Conference is endorsing the concept of 'slowing the spread' by encouraging compliance with these orders. This means that our regular Sabbath worship services throughout the Texico Conference will be suspended through Sabbath, April 4 in keeping with the 'stay at home' order and the reduction in the number of people who can be gathered in one place.

It is very important that we not equate these measures with the idea that these requirements are consistent with orders of 'false worship' or 'forced worship' but rather with employing a temporary willingness to modify our worship methods to center around smaller groups. We respond as we do from a posture of love, love for our neighbors, love for our friends and love for families as we participate in a plan to minimize the spread of an infection which any one of us may be a carrier. This is really a time for us to use other means to remain connected with each other, to keep our focus on Jesus and to be much in prayer for our church, our leaders and our country.

We are very heartened by reports that our pastors and congregations are pursuing to continue to experience spiritual community through various online platforms, social media, telephone, emails and text messages. On Wednesday morning we had a Zoom video-conference with our pastors and it was thrilling to hear updates relating to methods that they are using to continue to provide spiritual support to members throughout our conference. Our pastors have been very diligent in exploring opportunities to continue to encourage and minister to their people. Please check your church website and other communications with your pastor to confirm current plans for online worship services and other events that can be a blessing to you during this time.

Our teachers have been working hard to make the necessary changes so that they are able to provide online instruction and support. Sandia View Academy began using this process last Monday and Texico Conference elementary teachers and students will begin their online classes through remote connection this coming Monday. We are very grateful for the educators who serve the students in our conference and we thank them for their commitment to doing whatever it takes to provide for the educational needs of our students within a Christ-centered environment.

We are pleased to advise you that a special video message is being made available this weekend by the Texico Conference administration. It is our hope and prayer that this update, along with a very relevant message of encouragement and hope, will be a blessing to our people at this time. What a privilege it is to remember that we serve a God Who knows us, loves us and is working for our good in the midst of the chaos and challenge that we are experiencing. We invite all of you to continue to lift each other in prayer during this difficult time. Many of us have committed to participate in morning and evening prayers (7:00 AM and 7:00 PM) as we seek God's blessing and protection for all God's people throughout the Texico Conference and around the world.

We are praying that you will experience a wonderful Sabbath blessing in whatever context your celebration will be enjoyed. It is also our prayer that God will continue to provide your every need and that He will encourage your hearts with the joy of His Presence every day. May God bless and keep you all through His grace.

Texico Conference of Seventh-day Adventists Administration
Corrales, New Mexico
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