

March 19, 2020

Dear EFCGV Church Family,

As Pima County continues to feel the impact of the coronavirus (COVID-19), we wanted to continue our communication with you, our EFCGV family. Let us begin with...and then explain...our bottom line.

**Bottom Line:** After extensive prayer and discussion, involving many leaders, we have decided to cancel church services onsite, on March 22 and March 29. However, we are excited to provide an online worship service on both dates for all of us to participate in at our homes.

We also decided to cancel all group activities at our church building, beginning Friday, March 20, and extending through Tuesday, March 31.

Church leadership will meet once a week, at least, to review our decisions and to consider next steps for April and especially our Easter-season services. Our next scheduled meeting is Tuesday, March 25; we will continue regular communication with you.

**Explanation:** While we believe that physically gathering together is an essential part of worship (Hebrews 10:24, 25), out of a desire to honor our authorities (Titus 3:1), care for the most vulnerable among us (I John 3:17, 18), and love our community as practically as possible (Philippians 2:12-16; Colossians 4:2-6), we believe that the best way for our church family to glorify God this Sunday (March 22) and next Sunday (March 29) is to cancel our services onsite and to move our Sunday worship service online.

You can participate in our online service through our website [efcgreenvally.org](http://efcgreenvally.org) and/or Facebook page [facebook.com/efcgreenvally](https://facebook.com/efcgreenvally). We also urge you to help your friends experience this event, as they may need tech assistance or an invite to your home (Matthew 18:20).

For similar scriptural reasons, we also decided to close the church building to all activities from Friday, March 20 through Tuesday, March 31. After cancelling the Benson Family Singers concert, scheduled for this Friday, we provided them with a generous check to cover their expenses and return trip home.

By cancelling all services and activities through March, at our church building, we follow our Governor's lead in the timing and length of Arizona public school closings, pending future review.

Although we will not meet physically in our church building, we are not taking a break from God. Let us continue to serve God, study His word and pray. Spiritual health...and not just physical health...is imperative.

Let us also communicate these other important matters with you.

1. Our church facility will remain open and office staffed from 8:30 AM to 3:30 PM Monday through Fridays. There will also always be a pastor at the facility to pray and counsel with you.
2. You are welcome to come, pray and enjoy our facility on an individual basis. We have plenty of room, even for social distancing, and we will continue to sanitize and keep our facility as clean as possible, especially those often-touched surfaces.
3. Pastors, Elders and church leaders will attempt to call everyone in our church before March 31, to check up on you, pray with you, and see how we can serve you. We desire to talk directly to each of you, but when answering machines make that impossible, we will leave a message and personal prayer for you.
4. Each small group is free to decide whether or not to meet and under what conditions in your homes.
5. Pastors and lay church leaders will provide regular devotional videos, online, to encourage our faith and to keep all of us connected spiritually.
6. Please remember our ongoing local and global financial commitments. You can go to our web page [efcgreenvally.org](http://efcgreenvally.org) to set up online giving or you can drop off or mail your checks to EFCGV at 1393 W. Mission Twin Buttes Road, Green Valley, Arizona 85622.

**May we always remember:** *“God has not given us a spirit of fear but of power and love and a sound mind”* (2 Timothy 1:7). Because of Jesus, we will triumph through these uncertain times and advance the mission of our Savior. If you have special needs, prayers, or concerns, please contact the church office, any Pastor, or any Elder.

Yours in Christ,

Tom Dowdy, Church Chair

Doug Uthman, Elder Chair  
Steve LoVellette, Senior Pastor