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## SVNC Midweek Update: 3-25-20

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Spokane Valley Church of the Nazarene <info@svnc.org>

Wed, Mar 25, 2020 at 4:17 PM

Reply-To: info@svnc.org

To: bbuisman@svnc.org



Greetings SVNC,

As we continue to navigate our way through these new and uncertain days, I want to remind us that God is, and will always be, with us! Even though we cannot see each other in person right now, please know that you are loved and prayed for often.

During the time when we are practicing physical distancing from one another, let me encourage you to: Stay Connected, Grow Spiritually, and Love Others. These practices are central to our Christian faith at all times, but during times like these we cannot allow them to fall aside. So, here is what that means:

**STAY CONNECTED** – We need one another! Right now, we cannot gather in person, but we can still stay connected. The primary way we are trying to do that now is through what we are calling **Connect Groups**. A Connect Group is a group of approximately 10-12 people that will stay connected during this time in order to check in on one another, look out for one another, share communication, and support each other in prayer. We have asked each Connect Group to have a leader who will ensure that: each person is contacted at least once a week, serve as a liaison between the pastors and Connect Group, and commit to pray for their Connect Group members.

Over the last week and a half, we have been rolling these groups out as quickly as we can, but this is still a work in process, and we appreciate your patience. Some Sunday School teachers or existing small group leaders have said they would serve as a leader for those in their class or group. Other individuals have contacted us directly to share who they have, or would be, connecting with. **So far this represents more than 200 people!** Thank you for loving one another.

If you do not know if you are included in a group, or if you would be willing to reach out to others who are not currently included in a group, please email us at: [info@svnc.org](mailto:info@svnc.org).

**GROW SPIRITUALLY** – This past Sunday approximately 200 individuals joined us live during our 11:00 am watch party. Others were not able to join at that time and watch the video later on. These service videos will continue to remain available on our Facebook page and Vimeo page (links to both can be found at [SVNC.org](http://SVNC.org)). We encourage you to **continue to worship corporately** through: Sunday Worship videos, Midweek Connection videos, and tithes and offerings.

In addition, we encourage you to **spend time in Scripture and in prayer**. If you are in need of spiritual growth resources to help you, links are available at our web page, and we will continue to add additional resources in the coming days. To find these resources go to [SVNC.org](http://SVNC.org), scroll down, and click on the new "Resources" tab.

**LOVE OTHERS** – We are already beginning to hear stories of how our congregation is making a difference in the lives of others during this time. I am in awe of the commitment and creativity of our church!

We currently have **two opportunities that have been shared with us**. Evergreen Middle School is trying to provide “art” and “hygiene” bags to families that may need them. The art bags could have crayons, colored pencils, small notebooks, bubbles, chalk, coloring books, glue sticks, etc. The hygiene bags could have soap, shampoo, deodorant, toothpaste, floss, tissues, dish soap, laundry detergent, toilet paper, etc. In addition, they would love to have donated BOOKS of any kind. Used books are awesome. Probably best to think ages 5-14. Any of these donations can be brought to church Thursday, Friday, Monday, or Tuesday between 10am – 3pm.

Additionally, the school district is looking for volunteers to help deliver backpack lunches **this Friday**. Those who help with lunch delivery need to meet at Valley Partners by 3:00pm this Friday. Some helpers may ride with others and some may drive themselves. If you are able to help with either of these, please respond to Pastor Billy ([bbuisman@svnc.org](mailto:bbuisman@svnc.org)).

As additional opportunities arise, we will share them on Facebook, through email, and on our web page under the “Resources” tab as described above.

I continue to be humbled by the God we serve, and I am blessed to be your pastor. I am praying with you and for you, I love you, and I look forward to seeing you all again as soon as it is safe to do so!

Grace and Peace!  
Pastor Mark

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Spokane Valley Church of the Nazarene



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