



# St. Olaf Lutheran Parish ELCA



East St. Olaf  
Lutheran  
Church

Reverend Paul Thompson  
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March 17, 2020

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

Grace to you and peace, from God our Father, and our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, through the Holy Spirit.

At a special meetings this past Sunday, **the Congregation Councils of West and East voted to cease Sunday and Wednesday worship, and all other group activities indefinitely**. This was done to do our part to prevent the spread of the COVID-19 virus. We made this decision with great sadness, but believe it is a necessity. **I will remain available for pastoral care and counseling, but only via phone (507)-273-8504.** Steps are being taken so that our Confirmation students can continue their instruction. As much as I'd like to continue my visits with the sick and homebound, that simply wouldn't be safe at this time. I will be uploading sermon video's to YouTube each week (details at bottom of this letter).

Besides the loss to our spiritual health that comes with not meeting for worship, it will have an impact on our financial situation. Our bills still need to be paid. Without worship, there are no offerings. Our congregations need offerings to continue. **The Congregation Councils ask you to prayerfully continue your financial support for the church.** Be sure to make your check out to "West St. Olaf Lutheran Church" or "East St. Olaf Lutheran Church".

**West members** please send offerings directly to Dave Peterson at 25378 **720<sup>th</sup>** St., Hayfield, MN 55940.

**East members** please send offerings to Bryan DeCook at 7583 80<sup>th</sup> Ave. SW, Stewartville, MN 55976.

To watch sermon videos online each week go to YouTube.com and search for "East and West St. Olaf Churches".

Peace be with you all,

Pastor Paul Thompson