

RCC “Be The Church” Guide

Upon a great deal of prayer and consideration, the RCC Leadership has unanimously agreed to the following responses to help prevent the spread of the COVID-19 virus:

1. All RCC large group gatherings are suspended until further notice.
2. The RCC building is open for individual administrative tasks only and NOT for any type of gathering.
(Includes Women’s Bible Study, Men’s Bible Study, Youth Group, etc.)

1 Peter 2:13–15 (ESV) *“Be subject for the Lord’s sake to every human institution, whether it be to the emperor as supreme, or to governors as sent by him to punish those who do evil and to praise those who do good. For this is the will of God, that by doing good you should put to silence the ignorance of foolish people.”*

We believe in Jesus Christ and His Church. We believe we will navigate these challenges, be strengthened and grow through this. We ask that everyone stay steadfast in faith and diligent in prayer. Encourage one another. Thank-You.

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The RCC Leadership believes this is an opportunity for us to be strengthened and grow as a Church. We feel it's appropriate to recommend and encourage the following expressions of Christian faith:

- **FASTING, PRAYER & DEVOTION:** *Colossians 4:2–3 (ESV)* “Continue steadfastly in prayer, being watchful in it with thanksgiving. At the same time, pray also for us, that God may open to us a door for the word, to declare the mystery of Christ, on account of which I am in prison.”

- **As a Body: 24/7 Prayer and Fasting**

- We want to be in continual prayer for this time in our country and world. We are asking for volunteers to sign up for an hour of prayer from 7am to 7pm each day. Then the same people will be asked to devote the hours of 7pm-7am to fasting. (*This can also be done on your own without signing up*)

- **Guidelines for Prayer and Fasting:**

- **Prayer Topics:** The Spread of the Gospel, The Sick, Those Affected by the Shutdowns, Governing Authorities, The Elderly, A Swift End to this Season, Those at Higher Risk, Medical Professionals & Pharmacists, Other Nations, All Christians Everywhere.

- **Fasting:** Read, *Matthew 6:16–18 (ESV)* for the proper posture of fasting.

- Fasting is not about the food or the fast, but about denial of self in recognition of our deep need for God not just in this time, but at all times.

- **Individually: 1 Hour a Day of Prayer and Devotion to the Lord**

- If you don't feel called to prayer and fasting, this season is a perfect opportunity to devote at least an hour a day to prayer and time seeking God. (See the Prayer Topics Above)

- **Great Devotional Resources:** *The Practice of the Presence of God* by Brother Lawrence, *Jesus Calling* by Sarah Young, *My Utmost for His Highest* by Oswald Chambers, *Morning and Evening* by Charles Spurgeon, *New Morning Mercies* by Paul David Tripp, *Live in Grace - Walk In Love* by Bob Goff. **Feel free to use the RCC Library for more Resources.**

- **SIGN-UP for Fasting, Prayer and Devotion Here:** rushvillecc.churchcenter.com/people/forms/115237

- **Use the Online “Get Prayer Here” Card:**

- The Connection Team has developed an online prayer card for use by the Church and others in order to pray for specific needs during this time.
- The link to the online prayer card is: <https://rushvillecc.churchcenter.com/people/forms/115237>

- **FAMILY WORSHIP IN HOMES:** *Hebrews 10:24–25 (ESV)* “And let us consider how to stir up one another to love and good works, not neglecting to meet together, as is the habit of some, but encouraging one another, and all the more as you see the Day drawing near.”

- **Leadership Recommendation:** We are currently discouraging any gathering beyond families worshipping/devoting together with reasonable consideration and inclusion of those who may be facing this difficult time while living alone.

- **Components of “Family Worship”**

- **Worship in Singing:** Youtube, Guitar Led, Piano led, Right Now Media (www.rightnowmedia.org)
 - **Resource:** Seeds Family Worship www.seedsfamilyworship.com

- **Worship in the Word:** Right Now Media, Sermon Podcasts, RCC Sermon Archives (rushvillechurchofchrist.com/teachings)
 - **Resource:** www.oneplace.com Free Sermon podcasts and Christian media.

- **Worship in Communion:** Feel free to go get bread, cups, and juice from the RCC building or source on your own.

- Suggested Words of Institution for Communion: **1 Corinthians 11:23–26**

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- **Worship in Giving:** The right heart attitude is prayerful and cheerful giving in full recognition of your relationship with God in Jesus Christ. We give for the mission and ministry and we give in benevolence for any that have a need. (3 Ways)
 1. Mail In: RCC, 717 East Adams Street, Rushville, IL 62681
 2. Online: rushvillecc.churchcenter.com/giving
 3. Drop Box: There is a black mailbox to the immediate right of the RCC building doors that will be checked regularly.
- **1 TO 1 SHEPHERDING: 1 Peter 5:2 (ESV)** *“shepherd the flock of God that is among you, exercising oversight, not under compulsion, but willingly, as God would have you; not for shameful gain, but eagerly;”*
 - **The Goal is 1 to 1 Shepherding:** The RCC Elders, Pastor, Small Group Leaders and Selected Ministry Leaders are being asked to check-in on specific groups of people. However, It will be very difficult to check on everyone. So be sure to call, check on and care for others.
 - **We agree to use “Call, Check, Care”**
 - Call: Phone call, Text message, Facebook, etc.
 - Check: (Examples)
 - “Hey! Just checking in with you.”
 - “How’s it all going?”
 - “How are you and yours?”
 - “Do you have enough groceries?”
 - “Is everybody doing alright?”
 - Care: This means serve them in the way they need to be served, pray with or for them. Be encouraging. The Elders and Pastor are your back-up for when you feel the need is too great for you to field.
- **LOVE YOUR NEIGHBOR: Matthew 5:43–45 (ESV)** *“You have heard that it was said, ‘You shall love your neighbor and hate your enemy.’ But I say to you, Love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you, so that you may be sons of your Father who is in heaven. For he makes his sun rise on the evil and on the good, and sends rain on the just and on the unjust.”*
 - **Do all you can to help your Neighbor:**
 - Contribute to drives and relief efforts.
 - Check on the elderly (limited physical contact, shop for them?)
 - Check on those you know are not working or are financially affected to be a resource for them.
 - **GET CREATIVE!!**

We are being convinced of God’s goodness beyond these light and momentary troubles. We believe this will turn out for His glory and our joy. The Church is more than a building. We have seen that Christ’s Church transcends walls and locations. Lean into Him. We love you. We believe in you to be the Church.

*Love In Christ,
Pastor Jason Triplett
Elder Erik Monteen
Elder Jason Ackman
Elder Marty Ralston*