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TO: Victoria Rebeck  
CC: Janelle Walker  
FROM: Doug Hoy  
DATE: Tuesday, March 17, 2020  
SUBJECT: COVID-19 COMMUNITY OUTREACH SUGGESTIONS

Based on our conversations this morning. If you have any questions, please reach out.

## 1. Community Outreach

- a. Communicate with your congregations.
  - i. Utilize your communication channels (website, social media, phone lists, text) to keep in touch periodically, even if it means posting an encouraging scripture or positive note.
  - ii. Pay special attention to the vulnerable populations within your congregations and communities.
- b. Keep your ministries relevant.
  - i. Schools are closed, kids are at home, and parents may be struggling to engage them.
  - ii. Promote/provide age appropriate activities to facilitate engagement and support the continued learning process.
  - iii. Utilize Live Streaming and other resources to conduct virtual “group” activities.
  - iv. Host a Facebook “watch party”
  - v. Contact those who are working from home and offer an encouraging word.
    1. Remember, they may not be accustomed to doing so. And, they may be trying to accomplish their work while the kids are home from school.
  - vi. Utilize a Stephen Ministry to offer pastoral care via telephone, zoom, skype or other means.
    1. Reduce the burden placed on your pastors.

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- vii. Invite high school and college age students to participate in these activities.
    - 1. They may still need community service hours to graduate.
  - c. Communicate with the public
    - i. Let them know you will be continuing to offer certain services with a few changes in the method of delivery.
    - ii. Use the media to promote what you are doing and promote a positive message.
  - d. Think Outside the Box
    - i. Food Pantries establish pre-made boxes/bags of food for “drive through” service.
      - 1. Encourage collection of items for re-stocking NOW without hoarding.
    - ii. Clothing Banks establish online inquiries and “drive through” pick up service.
      - 1. Encourage collection of items for re-stocking to anticipate extended need.
    - iii. If you do not offer these services, communicate and collaborate with other local organizations and faith communities to continue services.
    - iv. Collaborate with local first responders and meet their needs.
      - 1. During times of crisis, emergency management and first responders need volunteers.