



Schedule of Services

Sunday

Bible Study 9:30 AM
Worship 10:30 AM
Worship 6:00 PM

Wednesday

Bible Study 1:30 PM
7:00 PM

www.collinsvillecoc.org

For from you the word of the Lord has sounded forth... in every place. (1 Thessalonians 1:8)

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Collinsville Church of Christ

March 22, 2020

From the Shepherd's Pen

Brothers and sisters, this is not a time to wring our hands and pace the floor in anxiety. This is not a time to ask, "Why is this happening, God? Why are you allowing this to go on in our country and in the world?" This is not a time to sit in our homes in fear and trembling. Though we must all take every precaution to protect ourselves from the COVID-19, this is a time to put our trust in God. There is no way that I can protect myself from every germ and virus as I go about my day, even if I box myself up in my house with every door locked shut. Sooner or later I must come into contact with the rest of the world and the reality that it is still there. But I can put my trust in the Almighty God who is able to do more than I can even begin to understand or imagine (Ephesians 3:20). Paraphrasing Jesus, He told those listening at His feet not to worry about what might happen tomorrow. There will be more to worry about then, because every day has its own worries (Matthew 6:34). In other words, take care of what you can today. In the context, He had told them how God takes care of the creatures and plants of His creation (Matthew 6:25ff). He knows how to take care of us. He knows our cares and our needs (Matthew 6:8). So Peter wrote that we should throw at Him all our cares and anxieties (1 Peter 5:6-7) and know that when all this passes, we will be in good hands (Romans 8:28). So what can you do? Take every precaution. Put your trust in God (Psalm 35:5). Get down on your knees (2 Timothy 2:1-2; Philippians 4:6-7).

I, also, see in this as an opportunity. Let us pray that God can use this to open hearts to Him. It might very well be that there are those out there who will be more open to God than they have ever been before.

There might very well be an opportunity here for us to cultivate the hearts of those around us. If you know someone in our community that needs encouragement because of what is going on, please submit to the ladies their name, address, and cause of concern. Complete the form under the mailbox in the foyer and drop it into the box. You can also call the office and leave the information with Dawn or on the answering machine, or call and give the information to one of the elders' wives. Cards can then be sent to them, informing them that they will be in our prayers and that we care. This is a time people might be more open to looking to God. Let us be His hands, His feet, and His mouth.

May God bless us all.

Terry L. Mabery

Philippians 4:4-7

4 Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, rejoice!

5 Let your gentle spirit be known to all men. The Lord is near.

6 Be anxious for nothing, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God.

7 And the peace of God, which surpasses all comprehension, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

Collinsville Church of Christ

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