

FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH *of Western Springs*

1106 Chestnut Street, Western Springs, Illinois 60558 † 708/246-1900



Dear Friends,

We have heard from so many of you regarding our prayerful decision to suspend in-person church activities for the next couple of weeks. Thank you for your understanding and kindness as we faithfully try to navigate these uncharted waters. As you know, we must all continue to do what is best for our entire, global community. Here are some important updates:

- The beautiful musical offering of **Invictus has been canceled for [this Sunday](#)**. It is our deep desire and hope that we will be able to reschedule this in the future. Thank you to our musicians, and especially Music Director Ray Klemchuk, for the numerous hours of heartfelt and dedicated preparation you poured into preparing for this very special worship service. Our hearts break with yours that this has had to be postponed. But we look to the future with optimism!
- We have some great news though!! **We will be able to virtually participate in the worship of God [this Sunday at 9:30am](#)**. (And will again on March 22nd and 29th). We invite you to gather your family (Yes, there'll even be First Steps!) around a computer [on Sunday morning](#) and click on this link: <https://youtu.be/NZnnbZ6N7XM>. We will include "Joys and Concerns" so if you have any that you would like spoken aloud, please email Meredith, meredith@wscongo.org and she will share your joy/concern with the congregation. (Please note that worship will be recorded so if you have any concerns about having a person's name used, please just indicate that when you email Meredith). We'll even be singing together so you might want to have the words to Amazing Grace handy! See below.
- If you miss live worship [on Sunday morning](#), we will be posting the recording of the service on our website, hopefully, no later than [Monday morning](#).
- And just to reiterate, the **church offices will be closed**, so please do not plan to stop by. Your pastoral team and staff will be available by phone or email and look forward to staying in touch with you! Please, **DO NOT HESITATE to reach out to us with any pastoral care needs** or concerns. We are also thinking through some creative ways to stay spiritually connected!

Blessings upon you all. You, our beloved congregation, remain in our prayers, always.

In Christ,
Rich, Katherine and Meredith

Rich, rich@wscongo.org
Katherine, katherine@wscongo.org
Meredith, meredith@wsconog.org

You may reach us by calling the main church line, 708-246-1900 and following the instructions to state the name of the person you are trying to reach.

*Amazing Grace,
How sweet the sound
That saved a wretch like me
I once was lost, but now am found
Was blind but now I see.*

*T'was Grace that taught my heart to fear
And Grace, my fears relieved
How precious did that grace appear
The hour I first believed!*

(John Newton, 1779)