



March 16, 2020

To the Students, Faculty and Community of Gather 4 Him Christian College,

No one could have predicted the events happening all around us. As restaurants, theaters, schools, and colleges close and scramble to adapt, we are reaching out to let you know that our first concern is the health of our students, faculty, and patrons. We have implemented practical safety measures here on campus, but it has become clear that more must be done.

It appears that the most effective means of stopping the COVID-19 virus is “social distancing,” that is, staying as dispersed as possible. Consequently, we have made the difficult decision to close the campus and suspend as much person-to-person contact as possible. All classes are suspended effective at 3:00 pm today, Monday, March 16, 2020.

Our plan is to reopen on Monday, March 30 with online classes only. There may be some exceptions in classes that require in-person instruction. We plan to spend the time we are closed developing an online instructional framework. We do not know at this moment which online educational platform we will use but we must move forward. The alternative is to lose a significant portion of the school year. We will issue clear and detailed instructions on how this will work no later than Friday, March 27.

We ask for your patience and prayers as we move into uncharted waters. We also ask for your continued financial support

Our focus is to demonstrate Christ-like calm in the middle of the storm and do everything within our capacity to keep our students, faculty and community healthy and safe.

Here's what we're doing on campus:

1. We've enhanced cleaning techniques for our meeting spaces, paying special attention to touch points such as chairs, door handles and other hard surfaces.
2. We're cleaning more frequently and continue to use recommended sanitizing products.
3. In addition, we are taking steps to ensure the welfare of our staff. This includes instructing those who feel ill to stay home and consult their healthcare providers.

As a community, we ask all of us to follow the guidance being provided by health officials:

- Cover your mouth and nose with a tissue, or your elbow, if you cough or sneeze.
- Avoid touching your face.
- Wash your hands frequently with soap and water for 20 seconds or more.
- If no soap and water are available, use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer.
- If you start to feel ill, contact a medical professional immediately.

Stay informed by using fact-based resources for information such as:

Benton Franklin Health District: <https://www.bfhd.wa.gov/>

WA State Department of Health: <https://www.doh.wa.gov/Emergencies/Coronavirus>



US Center for Disease Control: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/index.html>

Remember to stay connected via Populi and PLEASE review your contact information to ensure we can reach you.

In the Christ who conquers all disease,

Bob Nash, President

Darrell Puls, Dean of Academics

Kelsey Hawk, Registrar

Morgan Miller, Financial Aid Officer

Noe Lopez, Admissions and Student Life

Paige Fields, Media