ROCKPOINTE COMMUNITY CHURCH

Dear Rockpointe Family:

When you look around right now, what do you see? You might joke that you see the walls of your home, or the refrigerator door, or maybe even the colorful array of masks sported by your neighbors as they go about their business. Or maybe you're one of our frontlines workers, and your view is obscured daily by the plastic shield in front of your face as you dig deep for reserves of strength you're not sure you have. Or maybe you see too much of the pettiness of human nature as you scroll through social media, promising yourself you'll stop reading after just one more comment.

But you know what I see? I see hope. I mean it.

I see hope in the stream of encouraging comments and emails that lets me know you are praying and seeking God's will during this challenging time. I see hope in the steady outpouring of resources that allows us to continue in faithful ministry. I see hope in the volunteer who stuffs a bike trailer full of groceries for our Rockpointe Pantry and delivers them despite the chill of a steady spring drizzle.

Our key scripture verse for this year has been Isaiah 43:19 "See I am doing a new thing! Now it springs up; do you not perceive it? I am making a way in the wilderness and streams in the wasteland." I believe these words are just as true now as they were when the prophet wrote them.

I have said this often over the last period of time - **The church has never closed**. We may have stopped convening on site, but we've never closed.

When we meet this Sunday via <u>livestream</u>, we plan to take communion together. Last month many of you shared your stories of how this worked in your home, and we want to give you time to make sure you've got what you need on hand. **We realize that supplies may be limited**, so feel free to use what you have available.

Our **Children's Ministry** continues to operate via <u>Facebook</u>, so please tune in on Sunday mornings at 9 AM to hear from Pastor Jeff and Miss Angie. **AXIOM** continues to meet Wednesday evenings via <u>AXIOM+</u> on YouTube, and we also offer **Daily Journey** devotionals on our main <u>Rockpointe Facebook page</u>.

The Rockpointe Pantry has been a busy spot this last month providing for literally hundreds of people in our community. We are working to keep it supplied with a variety of shelf-stable goods, and we have secured ongoing deliveries of fresh foods as well. Please keep an eye on your email for details related to the Pantry including hours and special PantryPlus dates when we receive our refrigerated truck deliveries. If you are looking for a way to support this vital arm of ministry, you can donate funds or food items. Please mark funds for "Benevolence" and drop off any food items during Rockpointe Office Hours, Monday - Thursday, 9 AM - 3 PM. You can contact us with any questions at offices@rockpointe.org.



No matter what is going on in your life right now, I pray that you find hope. I pray that it grows, and I pray that it fills your heart with purpose and inspiration. I know it does mine. Inspiration to continue being the church in the various circumstances that arise around us as we temporarily set aside "going" to church. Together, we "are" the church and if, as Jesus said, "the gates of hell shall not prevail against it," then I cannot believe the current crisis will either.

Grace and Peace,

Randy Tomko
Lead Pastor
Rockpointe Community Church