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Hello BMA of Oklahoma friends and family!

I'm going to keep today's report pretty brief and I'm sure you can understand why. A couple of weeks ago when we made the decision to cease all public gatherings until March 30(now until April 30), we realized that none of us had ever pastored a church through a pandemic before. Our emotions and expectations were all over the place about what this would look like. Needless to say, several aspects of our weekly responsibilities have changed drastically since then. We are holding all of our Sunday services online, we are having members meetings through technology based formats, and we don't know exactly when it will all end. We cling tightly to passages such as Psalm 46 in this time and the truth that in our time of need, God is our refuge and strength, as well as our *very present help*. Chapters like Psalm 13 also resonate deeply with us in that we find ourselves asking "how long, o Lord?".



We are trying to figure out what this new normal look like for us. What we do know is that God is in control and that our priority in this time is to walk with and shepherd our people. Pastors, you have men and women in your church right now who are fearful, anxious, stressed, and at the end of their rope in many ways. I say that not to discourage you, but to encourage you and share with you that we are praying for you in this time. We know that it also may be an uncertain time for you personally in regards to finances, jobs, and family. 2 Chronicles 20:12 says this: "O our God, will you not execute judgement on them? For we are powerless against this great horde that is coming against us. We do not know what to do, but our eyes are on you." It is moments like these when though we may not be facing the exact circumstances Jehoshaphat was facing, we are up against something that seems so much bigger than us. In this time, may we look to Christ and trust that He is victorious over sin and death and that there is nothing that can separate us from his love!

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