

Dear Met church family,

We are living in extraordinary days of both challenge and opportunity. Even though we cannot meet in person these days, the work of the gospel continues. By God's grace, we see evidence that the reach of our ministry is actually growing, not shrinking at this time. Our ministry team is working hard to respond to these new realities and new opportunities, and to make the very most of them.

Some within the church family have raised the question of church finances at this time. This is not our main concern by any means, but it is a matter for prayer. In normal times, about 80% of our donations come through the offering plate on Sunday. Although we are no longer meeting in person, most of our expenses remain much the same: the building needs to be maintained, the regular bills need to be paid, we continue to support our missionaries around the world who rely on our support, and we are committed, of course, to supporting our staff (including our hourly workers) and paying their salaries. As you would expect, we are saving money where we can: the building is essentially shut down, we have already suspended discretionary spending, and we are looking at contingency options should we face a financial shortfall.

In light of these circumstances, we would like to take a moment to share with you some alternate ways to give. The most efficient and cost-effective way to give, and the method that enables ministry leaders to plan their ministry budgets most effectively, is through pre-authorized giving. If you have not signed up for pre-authorized giving, we would like to encourage you to prayerfully consider that option at this time. To set up pre-authorized debit (PAD) directly through your bank account, please contact Lorena Severson at lseverson@metbiblechurch.ca. On the [Give Now](#) page on our website, there is also the option for recurring or non-recurring giving using your debit or credit card, and you can easily reset recurring giving amounts or view your year-to-date giving totals at any time. On the [More Giving Options](#) page, there are additional ways to set up recurring or non-recurring giving (debit or credit card), including text-to-give, or you may also prefer to give through CanadaHelps.

We are trusting the Lord for His provision at this time. We know that He is more than able to provide for the ministry, and He is similarly able to provide for each household within the church family. We are very conscious that this will be a time of financial strain for some, and we understand that some will have to reduce their giving in light of those circumstances. We want to say as well that, if you are facing urgent financial need, we would invite you to contact us through the website (www.metbiblechurch.ca/virtualchurch) so that we can explore whether we could partner with you financially to help you through our benevolent fund.

As we navigate through these uncharted waters, we remember and trust that the Lord is sovereign. How good it is to know the Creator and Lord of all as our loving Heavenly Father in such a time as this.

With thanks and blessings,

Jonathan Griffiths, Lead Pastor, and Robert Shaver, Board Chairman