

# Being Welcome Baptist Church

## RESPONDING TO THE CORONAVIRUS

What do we do when we cannot **'DO'** church in the ways we're used to? When we cannot get together on a Sunday or even as smaller groups, what do we do?

The simple answer: **'BE'** who we are. Be the church. Our shape of meeting will look very different, but who we are does not change. We were never dependent on a venue, event or building, and we still aren't. We are still a church that is seeking to be unashamedly about Jesus. We are still about reaching, restoring and releasing people in His name.

A number of times in Scripture, God says things like this: **"you will be my kingdom of priests, my holy nation."** (Exodus 19:6) He calls the people—all of them—to be priests. Of course some held a particular function, but it was the whole community's role to seek God, draw close and demonstrate Him to the world. The New Testament uses this image to describe us too (1 Pet 2:9). We are a royal priesthood, a holy nation. We—all of us—seek God, draw close and demonstrate Him to our world.

**At Welcome the Deaconate** believe there are a few things God is especially calling us to in the face of the Coronavirus. Here are **4 ways we can all BE CHURCH** in the coming days:



### **PRAY** in God's Name

We pray in faith each day, standing on behalf of our world, our leaders, and the sick. We stand in faith, not in fear.



### **PROMOTE** God's Kingdom

We stand for the things of God no matter what. We live in distinctive love, kindness and peace, not fear and selfishness.



### **PROCLAIM** Good News

We listen to what others are saying, and ask Jesus to show us ways to use our voice to declare good news of hope and life.



### **PROTECT** Ourselves & Others

We wisely follow guidelines and advice, and look out for those most vulnerable, guarding from isolation and fear.