Dear Church,

I wanted to take an opportunity to share with you a great need. We have all felt the press of this season with lost jobs, closed schools, anxiety and overall disruption to our lives. These are times for us to lean even deeper and harder into our faith in Jesus and in His church. I pray you are being encouraged as we continue to seek ways to shepherd and minister to you.

With that said, we are in need to call upon you to prayerfully consider sacrificially giving to the church in this season. In the desire to be very transparent, our weekly average of giving earlier this year was approximately $82,000 per week and since the Covid 19 crisis we have seen a dramatic shift to an average of around $52,000 per week. To be blunt, this is simply unsustainable without drastic shifts in the way we do things around the church. Our desire is to allow as little impact as possible to those frontline practical ministries such as benevolence, care, global and local outreach. We have already made the very difficult decision to place many of our staff on furlough to try and address cash flow issues. Unfortunately, without an uptick in our weekly giving we will have to make even harder decisions regarding staff and paid time off. We pray we do not have to make that call as it will not allow us to love our people well.

I recognize that without the local gathering it is harder to keep this on the forefront of our lives and I also understand that many of your families are feeling a significant financial stress due to the times we are living in. We certainly are not asking you to put your family in jeopardy, but if you have never taken the step to give or if you have but feel the Lord leading you to give more, this is a time we desperately need it! I know many are praying about this right now. I was encouraged, even as I am writing this, by an email received by a young adult committing to give 20% in the coming months. I would simply ask that you pray and consider stepping into this space and joining in the work God is doing through Central.

Here are some practical things you can consider:

1. Utilize our text to give: Simply text any amount to 316-448-8555, follow the link and fill out the information, and click “make donation”. This is the quickest way to give and is completely secure.
2. Set up an account through our online giving https://ccc.onlinegiving.org: You can set up a one-time gift or a recurring gift, which is ideal as it creates a consistency for the church that can be very helpful. This is maybe the best option as it helps create a continuous and steady stream that is not as easily disrupted. We know that “shelter at home” orders or other unforeseen challenges such as the cessation of mail will impact us even more making this an even better option to consider.
3. Mail in a donation here to the church at 2900 North Rock Road, Wichita, Kansas 67226.

Central family, please pray about what the Lord would call you to give. Do not give out of compulsion, but with a joyful heart as an act of worship (2 Corinthians 9:7). We love you and we believe deeply in the provider of all things, knowing that often times He uses His people to stand in that gap.

If you are in need of encouragement or are struggling with anything and would like someone to pray with you, please text “connect” to 316-202-9767.

In His arms,
Pastor Darren