



April 7, 2020

Dear Family Members of Messiah Village Residents,

I hope you are well and are finding ways to stay connected and hopeful during this challenging time. Thank you for the many encouraging messages of support for our efforts to keep residents safe and healthy. I'm glad to be able to report that we still have no confirmed cases of COVID-19 in connection with Messiah Lifeways at this time.

With Easter quickly approaching, we recognize that many traditions and plans to celebrate the holiday will need to be adapted this year. I fully understand the disappointment this brings - it will be difficult not to spend time with extended family members and friends and participate in our respective traditions. But, I encourage you to think of these changes not just as an inconvenience, but as an opportunity to show love toward our neighbors by staying home and protecting our loved ones from this virus.

In the same way, I have the difficult task of asking you to make some sacrifices this year.

- First, refrain from gathering with those of us at Messiah Village, **even outdoors**.
- Second, postpone any exchange of hand-made treats and re-packaged items.
  - Only deliveries of essential items are permitted (groceries, medications) and please only pre-packaged goods.
- Third, **do not encourage your loved ones to spend time at your house this holiday** - this is a violation of the current stay-at-home order issued by Governor Wolf. If a resident comes in close contact with anyone outside of their residence, they will be asked to self-quarantine for 14 days.

Again, this sacrifice is a way to show love towards your neighbors by staying at home and limiting the chances of bringing this virus to campus.

Here are some additional reminders of the protocol changes that have occurred on the Messiah Village campus in response to COVID-19:

- All vehicles and essential visitors must enter through the main entrance on Mt. Allen Drive.
  - This includes foot traffic -- DO NOT park behind the barricade at the West Entrance and walk deliveries onto campus
- Visitors delivering essential goods or services are the only persons permitted onto campus.
  - Non-essential = social visits; non life-sustaining deliveries of snacks, Easter baskets, flowers, gifts, etc.
  - Essential = groceries and medications that your loved one cannot obtain on their own; caregivers performing pre-approved care for independent residents on aging in place addendums; end-of-life situations



Please know that everything we've asked you to do, or not do, is meant to keep you and your loved ones safe, while following guidelines from the PA Department of Health and the CDC.

We are also trying our best to help you communicate with your loved ones and keep you updated as things develop at Messiah Lifeways. In an effort to provide more timely, convenient information to you, we'll be making email updates a new option. Any family member who would like to **receive general email updates** from Messiah Lifeways during the coronavirus pandemic may sign up through the link at [MessiahLifeways.org/blog/coronavirus](http://MessiahLifeways.org/blog/coronavirus).

Finally, some reminders of how else to stay connected:

- We are posting updates nearly every day at [MessiahLifeways.org/blog/coronavirus](http://MessiahLifeways.org/blog/coronavirus). Also on the blog are video messages that our team recorded to help keep residents updated - feel free to view those as well at [MessiahLifeways.org/blog](http://MessiahLifeways.org/blog).
- Our family and community hotline is also updated with a new message every few days and gives you the opportunity to leave specific questions for our Infection Preventionist. That hotline number is **717.591.7249**.
- Social Workers and Enrichment/Activities team members would love to help you connect through phone and/or video chats. Please reach out to those team members in your loved one's neighborhood for assistance setting that up.
- Follow us on social media for other updates, activities, and encouragement. We're on Facebook (Messiah Lifeways & Messiah Village), Twitter (@MessiahLifeways), and Instagram (MessiahLifewaysPix).

We are also posting encouraging notes, pictures, and drawings from family and friends for all residents and team members to view on our internal television station, MVTV. If you'd like to send a note of encouragement or have a child's drawing displayed, please email those items to [bsteele@messiahlifeways.org](mailto:bsteele@messiahlifeways.org) (messages should be kept to 2-3 lines -- around 50 words -- for optimal viewing.) This channel also features a robust schedule of opportunities for activity and engagement such as wellness exercise videos, pastor chats, musical performances, and more.

Thank you so much for your cooperation and understanding. We are working through this together! I will continue to pray for you all in the weeks ahead, and I know many of you will be praying for us as well. Thank you, and God bless you as you celebrate the hope that the Easter season brings.

Christ is Risen!

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Curt Stutzman".

Curt Stutzman



President & CEO