Hey, Prairie Lakes! What a season we’ve found ourselves in. From social distancing to working from home to school closures to online services to frontline workers who are sacrificing more than ever, none of us expected to be in this spot. But, this is where God has us, and we’re watching Him work in some pretty incredible ways! Since we stopped live worship services in mid-March:

- Over 75 Connection Cards have been turned in
- We’ve averaged 2800 connected devices each weekend
- 216 households have switched to or started giving online
- 147 groups across our campuses continued meeting virtually
- 51 Faith Line decisions since Easter!

Even as our leaders urge us to stay six feet apart, we encourage you to build six-foot bridges. Reach out, check in and point your Little Iowa to the God who will meet all their needs. As Jesus-followers, this is our season for our faith and hope to shine!

John Fuller, Senior Pastor

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**FINANCIAL UPDATE**

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<th>2020 BUDGETED</th>
<th>CURRENT PROJECTION</th>
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CEDAR FALLS
During this unique season, we’ve been caring for our community. Many have served at the food bank and Waterloo Schools packing and handing out meals. We’ve responded to the emotional, physical and financial needs of our campus, and staffing hours have been reallocated to more directly care for our people. We’ve utilized dozens of chaplains to make phone calls, pray with and check in on our most vulnerable attendees. Zoom, social media and online platforms have allowed us to continue connecting and ministering despite social distancing guidelines. It’s been inspiring to see God’s people band together in this season and love well those inside and outside the church!

OSAGE
We are incredibly proud of our Osage Campus in the midst of COVID-19. Over the past several weeks, many of our chaplains and volunteers have partnered with our staff in connecting with over 150 households checking, praying and identifying critical needs we can respond to. Our Mobile Food Pantry has made significant shifts in how it operates, but we’ve still been able to serve around 120 households each month. As our people have invited their Little Iowas to join them in participating in online services, God has continued working in people’s lives and hearts. We are rejoicing and thanking Him as five people from our campus crossed the Faith Line in the past few weeks!

GRINNELL
Over the last couple of months, we’ve focused on care and connection. Our staff has diligently made phone calls and sent emails and text and Facebook messages to keep our campus connected with each other and the staff. Ten small groups have continued meeting online. We also continued blessing our community through MICA, one of our local partners, which has allowed many families to continue receiving assistance during this season. Lastly, we provided families a bag of activities to learn about and experience the Good News of Easter. Over 40 families picked up bags, and it was fun hearing about parents and kids spending time together at home around the Easter message.

FORT DODGE
In an era when we battle to create cell phone boundaries, we are grateful for these tiny, yet powerful, tools. With their ability to capture pictures, record videos and instantly share them on social media, we’re watching families navigate this unique season with creativity, adventure and humor. They’ve made it possible to engage in one another’s lives through texts, calls, emails and private message, and more people are truly connecting with others than before we started social distancing. And who would’ve thought we’d be using our cell phones to engage in worship services, invite people to check out our church, give, connect with a small group and provide opportunities to bless our community?

NEW HAMPTON
During the pandemic, we have responded in many ways to encourage virtual connection and opportunities to bless our community. All our adult and student small groups have transitioned to Zoom, with several new families jumping in. New men’s and women’s groups launched online providing an opportunity to connect over God’s Word. We offered families resources to share the Resurrection story with their kids during Easter week, which was a huge success! Several families not previously connected to PLC participated after a simple invite. Finally, we are blessing essential workers with goodies from local businesses and campus attendees to simply say “thank you” for all they are doing.

INDEPENDENCE
Common sense would say pausing worship services in a three-month-old campus would be devastating, but God has done some incredible things to continue growing our Independence Campus! Since closing our doors, more than a dozen families and individuals have reached out indicating they are new and want to get plugged in. We’ve stayed connected via phone calls, emails, text messages, social media and video chats. Several ministry teams have gathered via Zoom to grow and pray for each other. Many of our small groups have continued meeting online, and we have even seen people join a small group for the very first time. In April, we held our first membership class—also online!