

March 20, 2020
Family of Christ,

“My God will supply every need of yours according to his riches in glory in Christ Jesus. To our God and Father be glory forever and ever. Amen”—Philippians 4:19-20

This is new territory for all of us, but it is not new territory for God’s people, and it is definitely not new territory for God. Throughout history, as people have faced plagues and pandemics, Christians have responded with hope, love, and care amidst unimaginable suffering. Why? Because of the confidence that Paul shows us we can have in Jesus Christ. We are in His hands, not just day to day, in times of ease and times of suffering, but eternally. Throughout history, even in the deadliest of times, God has shown his mighty resurrecting power throughout the world and through His people. “‘Take heart,’ Jesus said, ‘I have overcome the world.’” John 16:33.

In times like these we can be God’s riches in glory in Christ Jesus for others in old and new ways. This verse helps us to be the church for each other, for our community, and for our world. How?

God will supply our need as we follow the hygiene and social advice of the experts and the leaders God has given us for such a time as this.

God will supply our need as we find new ways to move towards others with words of faith, hope, and love whether by phone, Facebook, letter, or video chat.

God will supply our need as we care for our families and each other in new circumstances, whether we are now a stay-at-home parent and teacher or we visit an aging relative through a window or writing a card for a homebound member of our family of believers.

God will supply our need as we reach out to others for help, or reach out to others with help.

Brothers and sisters in Christ- as Jesus’ body we are filled with his riches, and filled to be His riches for others. I am so confident, just like Paul, that God will supply every need of ours and then some.

We have put together a list of resources available to you if this time has been troublesome for you financially or in other ways as well. Please take some time to go to our home page to check out our google form that you can fill out. The website is: <http://www.redeemer-rochester.com>. You will find the form if you click on the “Christ’s Community in Action” tab. We want to hear from you with how we can help you. On our google form, you can request help with grocery shopping, medication pickup, financial assistance/utility help, call from a pastor, a prayer request or caring phone call, technology help. The other thing you will find on that tab is a PDF full of other information and resources for you to use if you should have need of any of them.

Or, can you help? We also want to hear from you how you might be able to help another person. You can offer to help with any of the above things or even to write a card or a letter to send to our homebound. This could be a wonderful family activity with kids.

Once you fill that form out someone will contact you in order to facilitate caring action in Christ.

If you have any other ideas or questions, please do not hesitate to call the church and speak with Pastor Ben or Pastor Adam.

God has loved us, prepared us, supplied us, and filled us for such a time as this.

Yours in Christ,
Pastor Ben and Pastor Adam