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March 31, 2020

Blessings Hephatha Family and Community,

"If then you have been raised with Christ, seek the things that are above, where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God. Set your minds on things that are above, not on things that are on Earth" Colossians 3: 1-2

A commonality to our lives in recent weeks is the possibility of our situation to rapidly change or evolve. This has been an earthly consistent for us as a community. I hope that through these unsettling, and often frustrating, times we can collectively fix our eyes on the comfort we have through our Lord and Savior. This is especially important as we prepare for Holy Week, and an Easter celebration of His resurrection in a manner we have never experienced.

At a recent press briefing, President Trump extended the social distancing guidelines to April 30th. [Click here for his remarks.](#) In light of this announcement, our current collaborative learning model will continue until at least April 30th. A specific date of return-to-campus has not been specified. Administration, along with the Hephatha board of education, will continue to reevaluate as new information becomes available.

Hephatha Lutheran joins you in the hope that our government, medical professionals, and the general community is able to find a solution to these times of uncertainty. All staff and stakeholders remain committed to providing as little of an interruption to the learning process for each and every one of our students.

Teachers will continue to diligently implement lessons and schedule interactive online instruction times. Later today a parent survey will be sent out to the Hephatha community in regards to our transition to collaborative learning.

Collectively we can find comfort in fixing our eyes on Jesus, his guiding hand will provide peace as we wait for this time of unknown to pass.

In Christ,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Eric Deyke".

Eric Deyke
Principal
Hephatha Lutheran Church and School