



Acts6 Outreach

We, as a country, a community and a church family find ourselves in unparalleled times. We receive daily cautions and guidelines about how best to avoid becoming infected by the Coronavirus (COVID-19), yet our physical, emotional and spiritual needs cannot be “put on hold” while we do our best to quarantine ourselves and our families. Christians are not immune to the health risks imposed by this virus by simply being people of strong faith, but we do claim the promises of a sovereign God that we find in His Word. This not only empowers us to respond differently to this “would be calamity”, it mandates that we do so. This is a time when the church must respond differently in faith and hope, not paralyzed by fear. Certainly, we should not throw caution to the wind and behave as uninformed, careless people in the face of a very serious, contagious disease. But we should do what we can, as we are able, to reach out and help those in our midst who are less able than we to help themselves.

Out of this mindset, the Acts6 Outreach was conceived. Those who are able, willing and available will indicate their availability to help others who are significantly more vulnerable and compromised by this virus. Those who are in need of assistance will submit information regarding their need for assistance. A database has been created in which information from both parties will be recorded. This will provide a helpful tool for appropriately matching volunteers with requests. This outreach effort is not a vehicle for providing financial support, although there may be other avenues available for those resources. This outreach effort is focused on transportation needs (for groceries, medication, etc.) and spiritual needs (prayer, encouragement, etc.) Those involved in providing assistance will comply with guidelines which align with the CDC’s recommendations to ensure their safety, as well as the wellbeing of the person they are serving. (i.e. They will drop off requested items in an agreed upon location such as a porch or garage and will not come into anyone’s home to visit.)

Many of our deacons, elders and others within our church family have volunteered to participate in providing requested assistance. We have learned that certain demographics of our community (senior adults and those with underlying health conditions) are particularly vulnerable with respect to COVID-19. We want to allow you to avoid going into the public realm, if at all possible. If you require assistance, please complete the attached form and either email it to acts6@chapinbaptist.com, send/deliver it to the church office, or call the church office and a volunteer will call you to discuss the assistance you require.

Acts 6:1-7

Now in these days when the disciples were increasing in number, a complaint by the Hellenists^[a] arose against the Hebrews because their widows were being neglected in the daily distribution.² And the twelve summoned the full number of the disciples and said, “It is not right that we should give up preaching the word of God to serve tables.³ Therefore, brothers,^[b] pick out from among you seven men of good repute, full of the Spirit and of wisdom, whom we will appoint to this duty.⁴ But we will devote ourselves to prayer and to the ministry of the word.”⁵ And what they said pleased the whole gathering. . . .⁷ And the word of God continued to increase, and the number of the disciples multiplied greatly in Jerusalem, and a great many of the priests became obedient to the faith.