

There is NOTHING stopping us from becoming STRONGER as a church during this crisis.

There is NOTHING stopping us from emerging STRONGER as a church after this crisis.

And that's what is going to happen:

**We are going to become a stronger church NOW,
And we when we come out of this, we'll be stronger THEN.**

If you hear nothing else, here this: we are going to become STRONGER as a church as a result of this crisis.

What makes a strong church?

Only two characteristics:

1. A strong church is deeply rooted in Christ.
2. A strong church is tightly connected together.

There is nothing stopping us from either of those two points.

Remember, the church is the people, not the building.

Everything we've been about for the last 9 years and everything I've been preaching about has prepared us for this crisis. WE HAVE EVERYTHING THAT WE NEED FOR THIS CHALLENGE.

Our strategy is simple, and it hasn't changed:

1. We teach people the Bible.
2. We teach people to pray.
3. We connect people together.

Those 3 things (in some form or fashion) are all that we do.

And we will continue to do those things during quarantine. Here's how.

PRAYER

Daily Prayer

I will lead a brief morning and evening prayer service online at 7 AM and 7 PM, Monday-Friday. The services will be short: 15 minutes. These services will be livestreamed online, but will not be archived later. [Begins Monday, March 23.]

Prayer Requests

You can submit prayer requests online. See the blue PRAYER tab on the upper right corner of our website, or else go to www.mungerplace.org/prayers. Mary Wilson receives all submitted requests.

SCRIPTURE

Daily Scripture

I've been struggling just to keep my head above water these last few days, but my weekday scripture commentary will resume tomorrow at 4:00 AM. Sign up on my blog [www.andrewforrest.org], if you haven't already. Keep up with your daily readings!

Weekly Bible Study

Every Wednesday evening, immediately following evening prayer, I will teach a 45 minute Bible study. [Begins Wednesday, March 25.]

CONNECTION

Small Group Meetings

I want to encourage those of you who have not done so to to meet virtually, through whatever platform you choose. If you need help, let us know.

Digital Small Group Launch

If you don't have a group, we're doing a digital small group launch to help connect folks together. [Register here](#).

Phone Calls

Our staff will be reaching out to as many Hungarians as possible over the phone, just to check-in with you.

Weekly Schedule

Men's Meeting, 7:00 AM Wednesdays [Begins Wednesday, March 25.]

Live Song at noon every weekdays [Begins Monday, March 23.]

Children's and Youth Ministry will be pushing out content and ideas on a weekly basis as well. [Begins Monday, March 23.]

OTHER BUSINESS

Prayer Theme

There are 3 specific prayers I'd like every Mungarian household to be praying every day.

Lord, save us.

Lord, awaken us.

Lord, bring us back together.

Finances

We are in a strong financial position, thanks to the generosity of our members. We've been good stewards in the past, and we are going to be good stewards of our financial blessing now. We are of course saving every dime possible. At the same time, we are going to continue paying our hourly workers (nursery caregivers, e.g.) to help them out as they lose hours elsewhere. We are also keeping up our orders at **Lakewood Donut** and **La Popular Taco**.

Online Giving

Our responsibility to be generous with what the Lord has given us does not change when the economy changes. Therefore, we need to keep giving. **If you are receiving any sort of income, you need to be tithing off that income—it's that simple.** And, if we needed any more reason to give (which we don't!), let it suffice that *during this time of crisis the ministry of the church is more vital than ever.*

Staff Going to the Mattresses

All staff jobs have changed; whatever anyone's job description used to say is no longer relevant—we are all focused on fighting this virus and fighting for our church and our community. We're at war, and everybody is doing GREAT.

How to Help—Munger Dash

We have created our own version of Door Dash called **Munger Dash**.

Mungarians who volunteer will help run errands for the sick or vulnerable or homebound. Another aspect of **Munger Dash** will be making "driveway visits," in which folks will drive over to other Mungarians' houses, park in the driveway, roll down the window, and chat for a few minutes with the other person or family on their porch or in their doorway, just for a moment of interaction.

There is a link online to sign up to serve in that way (and in some other ways).

How to Get Help

If you need help *for any reason*, use the link online to ask for help.

Your Daily Disciplines

It says in Ephesians 4 that Christ gave pastors to the church to prepare the people for ministry:

¹¹ So Christ himself gave the apostles, the prophets, the evangelists, the pastors and teachers, ¹² to equip his people for works of service, so that the body of Christ may be built up ¹³ until we all reach unity in the faith and in the knowledge of the Son of God and become mature, attaining to the whole measure of the fullness of Christ. [Ephesians 4:11-13]

My job (and the job of our church staff more broadly) is to prepare our people for ministry.

I'm like a head coach, training you for the race. Now it's time to run.

Your responsibility is to re-commit to the basic disciplines of the Christian life, specifically daily prayer and daily scripture reading.

When we pray and when we read scripture, we become STRONGER.

You need it more than ever.

We need it more than ever.

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That's EXACTLY what we are going to do.

Who's in?

Q&A