

## Senate Approves COVID-19 Response Measures

By Senator Mario Scavello

The Senate and House of Representatives convened remotely to pass four bills to keep Pennsylvania moving forward during the COVID-19 coronavirus public health emergency. The measures now go to the Governor for enactment into law.

House Bill 68 amends the Unemployment Compensation Law to ease eligibility requirements and access to unemployment compensation for workers impacted by the coronavirus, including waiving the one-week waiting period for all claimants during the governor's disaster declaration. Job search and registration requirements for claimants will be waived. The measure provides automatic relief from benefit charges for any employer whose account would otherwise be charged for weeks of unemployment occurring during the duration of a disaster emergency.

Senate Bill 422 makes several changes to the Pennsylvania Election Code to move the primary election date from April 28 to June 2 and give counties the authority to close, relocate or consolidate polling places due to the potential shortage of available volunteers and venues.

Senate Bill 751 makes several changes to the Public School Code to waive the 180-day requirement for public schools and similar restrictions for career and technical schools and pre-kindergarten instruction. It allows for an increase in flexible instruction days and guarantees that teachers receive the same compensation they would have received if the pandemic had not occurred.

House Bill 1232 amends the Fiscal Code to provide up to \$50 million in additional funding to health-care facilities for the purchase of medical equipment and supplies to address the demands that COVID-19 could place on the state's healthcare system. It extends the deadline to declare and pay estimated Personal Income Tax and authorizes the Department of Community and Economic Development to coordinate with local political subdivisions to extend filing and payment deadlines for the local Earned Income Tax. These deadlines have been extended to July 15, 2020. In addition, it extends the temporary regulations related to Pennsylvania's medical cannabis industry until November 2021.

## Mental Health Crisis Line Available During Coronavirus Emergency

HARRISBURG - The public health emergency prompted by the COVID-19 coronavirus has created a great deal of uncertainty and anxiety throughout the state and the nation. The Department of Health encourages state residents to practice self-care, read only news from reliable sources, take breaks from the news, and focus on things you can control, like having good hygiene.

If you or someone you know is experiencing a mental health crisis, contact the state's crisis hotline by texting PA to 741-741.

## Free Webinar Offered for SBA Disaster Loans

By Senator Scavello

PEN ARGYL - The new loan program created by CFA and PIDA to support small businesses is not the only financial resource for businesses affected by the COVID-19 public health emergency. The U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA) is also offering loans to businesses and non-profits during this unprecedented time in our nation's history.

Additional information on the SBA loan program is available by contacting the disaster assistance customer service center by calling 1-800-659-2955 (TTY: 1-800-877-8339) or e-mailing [disastercustomerservice@sba.gov](mailto:disastercustomerservice@sba.gov).

The Penn State Small Business Development Center will hold a free webinar on the process of applying for SBA emergency loans on Wednesday at 10:30 a.m. It covers who is eligible, timelines, and how to estimate economic loss, and questions will be answered via live chat. Participants must register by 8 a.m.

## PIDA Approves Low-Interest Loans For Small Businesses

Joe Marnardy

HARRISBURG - The Pennsylvania Industrial Development Authority (PIDA) has approved funding to provide \$61 million in low-interest loans to Pennsylvania's small businesses impacted by the COVID-19 public health emergency.

Loans of up to \$100,000 will be available through the Pennsylvania Commonwealth Financing Authority (CFA) for small businesses with 100 or fewer full-time employees to use as working capital. In addition to a low interest rate, there will be no application fees, and the terms will include no payments and no interest during the first year of the loan.

Funding for the program was made possible by the CFA's transfer of \$40 million in funding to PIDA. That money will be combined with existing funds in PIDA's Small Business First Program to provide low-interest loans to small businesses.



Thursday, April 2, 2020  
10AM



## Northampton County Virtual Town Hall Meeting for Businesses Affected by the Coronavirus

Join us for an audio conference call to share helpful resources that your local, state & federal government can provide.

Register today via Eventbrite to receive your call in number

All questions must be submitted in advance:

<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/northampton-county-virtual-town-hall-for-businesses-affected-by-covid-19-tickets-101306646908>

### SPEAKERS:

Lamont McClure, Northampton County Executive  
Salvatore J. Panto Jr., Mayor - City of Easton  
Alicia Karner, Director, Community & Economic Development - City of Bethlehem  
Hon. Susan Wild, U.S. Representative - 7th Congressional District  
Hon. Robert Freeman, PA Representative - PA House District 136  
Hon. Steve Samuelson, PA Representative - PA House District 135  
Hon. Mario Scavello, PA Senator - PA Senate District 40  
Michael Kane, Deputy Director, Eastern PA District, US SBA  
Carol Kilko, Deputy Secretary, Office of Business Financing - PA DCEd  
*Speakers may be added and/or subject to change*

Please call with questions: Dawn Tomaino

610-829-6309

or e-mail to

[dtomaino@northamptoncounty.org](mailto:dtomaino@northamptoncounty.org)

## Blue Valley Times

SERVING THE SLATE BELT, LOWER POCONOS AND NORTHERN N.J.  
DAILY ONLINE WEEKLY IN PRINT

Visit us at [www.bluevalleytimes.com](http://www.bluevalleytimes.com)

THE USA'S ONLY ALBUM-QUALITY METALLICA TRIBUTE

524 MAIN STREET STROUDSBURG, PA  
SHERMANTHEATER.COM 570.420.2808

TICKETS AVAILABLE AT [EVENTBRITE.COM](http://EVENTBRITE.COM)  
and THE SHERMAN THEATER BOX OFFICE

eventbrite

# Please Contact Your Church For any Cancellations Due To The Corona Virus

## NOTICE

ALL SUBMISSIONS MUST BE  
**EMAILED ONLY TO**  
**BVTIMES@RCN.COM**  
**BY FRIDAYS NOON**

## Community Presbyterian

**1755 S Delaware Drive, Mt. Bethel**  
Sun. - SS 9:15am, Worship service  
10:30am, Coffee hour on last Sunday of  
every month following service.  
www.mtbethelpresbyterian.org,  
(570) 897-6766.

## Cross Road Baptist Church

**201 Second St., Bangor**  
Sun- 9:15am Praise Sing, 9:30am SS,  
10:45am Worship; Wed- 7pm Prayer/  
Bible Study. Rev. Jay VanHorn, Pastor  
(610) 588-3966,  
www.crossroadbaptistbangor.org

**The Lady's Guild of Our Lady of Vic-**  
**tory R.C. Church, Tannersville** will hold  
a Chicken Cordon Blue Dinner on April  
28th. We would appreciate your help  
in advertising this year's event without  
cost to the church.

## The East Bangor United Methodist

**Community Church**  
Sun., Apr. 5  
- 10:00 a.m. Online Worship  
(VISIT WEBSITE FOR DETAILS)  
- 4:00 to 5:00 p.m. FREE Dinner  
(PICK-UP ONLY)  
Pastor Dave Goss  
(610) 588-4453 Dial-A-Message  
(610) 588-3896 www.ebumc.org

## Faith Alive Community Church

**10 Mechanic St, Wind Gap**  
Tues- 6pm Ladies Prayer Meeting (2nd  
Tues); Wed- 6:30pm Revival Prayer,  
7:15pm Adult Bible Study; Sat- 10-2pm  
Prayer Stop (1st Sat); Sun- 9:15am  
Family Fellowship, 9:30am Interces-  
sory Prayer, 10am Worship, 10:45am  
Children's Church, Communion at  
10:30am (1st Sun). Pastor Matthew  
Whistler. (610) 863-6911,  
www.faccpa.org

## Family Life Community Church

**1115 Richmond Rd, Bangor**  
Wed- Kidz Night Out at The Hub 6:30-  
8pm (kids 6 thru 6th gr.); Thurs- Teen  
Night Out at The Hub 6:30-8pm (gr.  
7-9); Sun- 10am Celebration Service.  
Pastor Mike Poppa. 610-588-3736,  
www.flccbngor.com.

## First United Evangelical

**25 S 2nd St., Bangor**  
Sun. - 7pm Prayer Meeting & Bible  
Study; Jan 20- 9am Prayer Meeting,  
9:30am Church School, 10:30am Wor-  
ship. Pastor Ronald Shipman at  
(610) 588-3226

## First United Methodist Church

**55 N. Third St., Bangor**  
Worship every Sunday at 11am, Adult  
and Children Sunday Schools 9:45am,  
Communion first Sunday of month,  
Wednesday evening Bible Study  
6:30pm. Pastor Chris Hardy  
(610) 588-4673.

## First United Methodist

**19 West & Water St., Wind Gap**  
Sun.- 9am SS, 10am Worship/Commu-  
nion, 11am Fellowship on 1st Sunday of

each month. Pastor John Vidal  
(570) 426-0645

## Flicksville United Church of Christ

1337 Lower South Main Street  
Bangor, PA 18013  
Pastor Ken Hess  
610-588-4648  
www.flicksvillucc.com  
Sunday School at 9:30 AM  
Worship at 10:45 AM  
All are welcome!

## God's Missionary Church

**of Northampton**  
**4965 Nor. Bath Blvd (Rt 329),**  
**Northampton, PA**  
Sun- SS 9:30am, Service 10:30 & 7pm,  
Youth Service 6:30pm; Wed- Prayer  
Meeting 7:30pm. Rev. Rodney Keister.  
(610) 262-4412.  
http://GMC-N.com

## Good Shepherd Evangelical

**Lutheran Church,**  
**2904 Church Rd, Martins Creek PA**  
Sunday Worship Service 9:00 am. Adult  
Bible Study Following Worship. Pastor  
Louise Williams.  
www.goodshepherdmc.com

## Grace Lutheran Church

**5907 Sullivan Trail, Nazareth**  
Tue. - 6:30pm Choir; Jan 20- 9am  
Service/Communion, 10:15am SS,  
10:30am Confirmation/Adult Forum.  
(610) 759-9080, www.gracebelfast.org

## Grace United Methodist

**404 Mountain Ave., Pen Argyl**  
Sun.- 8:30am Contemporary, 10am  
Blended, 10am SS. Rev. J. Timothy  
Fisher. (610) 863-4811. www.worshipat-  
grace.org

## Holy Trinity Orthodox Church

**1501 Trinity Court, Stroudsburg**  
Divine Liturgy Sundays 9:30 AM;  
Vespers Saturday 6:30 PM. (570) 421-  
4455, www.holytrinitypoconos.org.

## Hopesprings Community of Faith

**301 Market Street, Bangor**  
Sun-Services 10am. Jonathan Almaz-  
zar, Lead Pastor. 855-INFO-HOPE.  
www.hopespringscommunity.org.

## Hope UCC

**2nd & Cherry St., Wind Gap**  
Sun- 10:30am Worship (Communion  
1st Sunday of the month). All are wel-  
come! SS 9:30 Sunday Morning.  
Pastor Emily B. Hall. (610) 863-4474

## Living Waters Christian Church

**396 Sterling Rd. Unit D, Tobyhanna**  
Thurs- 6pm Christian Edu Sun- 9:15am  
Christian Edu, 10:30am Worship. Rev.  
Dr. Jacqueline R. Walters  
570-350-4710

## Mt. Bethel Church

**A Church of the Lutheran Brethren**  
**1270 Belvidere Cr. Rd, Mt. Bethel**  
Sun.- 8:30am Traditional Service ,  
11am Contemporary Service Visit our  
website www.mountbethelchurch.org or

call (570) 897-7142 for info.

## Our Lady of Good Counsel

436 South 2nd Street  
Bangor, PA 18013  
Rectory (610) 588-5445  
Parish Webside: www.ourladystvincent.  
com Mass Schedule  
Weekdays 8AM excluding Thursdays  
(See Church Website)  
Saturday 4 PM Sunday 8:30 AM  
Holy Days (See Church Website)  
Saturday Confessions 3:25-3:45 PM

## Our Lady of Victory R.C. Church,

Tannersville, PA will hold a Free Com-  
munity Dinner on Sunday, July 21st  
from 3pm to 4pm. They would appreci-  
ate your assistance in advertising this  
dinner without cost to the Church.

## Portland Baptist Church

**601 Delaware Ave., Portland**  
Sun- Sunday School 9am, Service  
10:30am; Wed- Bible Study 10:30 with  
Prayer Meeting to follow. Elevator and  
rampsWe are handicap accessible with  
automatic doors, elevator and restroom.  
(570) 897-6866  
www.portlandbaptistchurch.com

## Prince of Peace Lutheran Church

**2445 Lake Minsi Dr., Bangor**  
Saturday Worship: 1st & 3rd 5:30 pm.  
Sunday School starts at 8:30am (Sep-  
tember-May )  
Sunday Service- 9:45am  
Holy Communion is served weekly. All  
are welcome!

## Richmond United Methodist Church

**8538 Delaware Dr, Bangor**  
Palm Sunday, worship at 10:00 am.  
Maundy Thursday, Soup at 6:00 pm  
and Worship at 7:00 pm. Good Friday  
12:00 pm to 3:00 pm for Personal  
Meditation, Devotion and Prayer  
Easter Sunrise Service at 7:00 am (fol-  
lowed by breakfast) Easter Traditional  
Worship 10:00 am  
Rev. Ed Van Arsdale  
610-588-7317

## Slate Belt Church

**1620 Church Rd, Pen Argyl**  
(Across from the Wind Gap Middle School)  
www.slatebeltchurch.com  
Sun.- 9:30am SS, 10:30am Worship &  
Children's Church (nursery provided)  
5:30pm Bible Study, Youth Group & Kids  
Program Pastor Steve Rebert  
610-863-9274

## St. Brigid's Episcopal Church, Nazareth.

Delete Sunday school  
Holy Eucharist @ 9:30 a.m.  
St. Brigid's Episcopal Church  
310 Madison Avenue  
Nazareth, PA 18064  
Phone: 610-746-3910  
Fax: 610-746-4515

## St. Elizabeth's Parish

**300 West Babbitt Ave., Pen Argyl**  
Sun.- Masses 8am, 9:30am & 11am. Rev.  
Msgr. Vincent P. York.  
610-863-4777

## St. John's Evangelical Lutheran

## 12 N. Westbrook, Pen Argyl

Sun.- 8:45am SS, 10am Worship/Holy  
Communion. (610) 863-4332

## St. Joseph's Episcopal

**1440 Verona Dr., W. Bangor**  
Jan 20- Eucharist 11am; Christmas Eve  
Service 4pm. Rev Joel Atkinson. Coffee  
hour after service.

## St. Luke's U.C.C. Belfast

**471 Belfast Rd., Nazareth (Belfast)**  
SS 9am, Worship 10:30am. Rev. Cecelia  
Baxter and Rev. Jameson Baxter.  
610-759-0244.  
www.stlukesuccbelfast.com

## St. Mary's Episcopal

**340 Lehigh St., Wind Gap**  
Sun.- service 9am. Coffee hour follows  
service. Rev. Joel Atkinson.

Maundy Thursday Service will be held  
at St. Mary's Episcopal Church Wind  
Gap at 5:30 P.M. Easter Morning Ser-  
vice will be held at St. Mary's Episcopal  
Church Wind Gap at 9:00 a.m.

## St. Peter's Evangelical Lutheran

**1422 Church Rd, Pen Argyl**  
(610) 863-6859  
Sunday Worship/Communion  
8am and 10:15am;  
9am SS  
www.stpetersplainfield.com

## St. Vincent dePaul

720 Delaware Avenue  
Portland, PA 18351  
Rectory (610) 588-5445  
Mass Schedule Weekdays (at OLCG)  
Saturday 6 PM Sunday 10:30 AM  
Holy Days (See Church Website)  
Saturday Confessions 5:40-5:50 PM

## The Pentecostal Christian

**Church the Truth**  
**(Iglesia Pentecostal La Verdad)**  
**4 Jory Ave Pen Argyl**  
Sun.- Prayer 14- Sunday School  
(Escuela Dominical) 12 noon, Praise &  
Worship (Cuho Evangelistico) 1pm.

## Temple Israel of the Poconos

**Egalitarian Conservative Synagogue**  
**660 Wallace Street, Stroudsburg**  
Sabbath Services: Friday evening 7pm  
followed by a Traditional Oneg Shabbat.  
Saturday morning 9:30am followed by a  
traditional Kiddush. Dr. Sandra Alfonsi  
570-223-7062.

## Trinity United Church of Christ

632 S Delaware Dr.  
Mt Bethel Pa 18343  
Sunday Worship 10:30 am SS and  
Confirmation 9:00 am Rev. Rodney  
Wells pastor

## Trinity Evangelical Lutheran

**404 Broadway, Bangor**  
Thur - Christian Ed 6:30pm, Choir  
7:30pm; Jan 20- SS 9am, Worship/  
Communion 10am. Pastor Laine. (610)  
588-2023, www.tlcbangor.com.

## Zion Presbyterian Church

**Water St., Wind Gap**  
Sun.- Rev. Albert Martin will be speak-  
ing at the 9:30am service. Children SS

**Ackermanville United Methodist**  
**1410 Ackermanville Road, Bangor**  
Sun 10am Worship. Rev. Sukja Bang  
(610) 588-7818,  
www.ackermanvilleumc.org

## Bangor Church of the Nazarene

**150 Bunny Trail, Bangor**  
Sun 9:30am SS, 10:40am Worship  
(Children's Church to grade 2), 5pm  
Powerhouse Praise Practice, 6pm Teen  
Straight Talk & Small Groups. Kenneth  
L. Bean, Pastor  
(610) 588-6929

## Belfast Bible

**483 Belfast Rd., Belfast**  
Sunday School (all ages) 9:30am, Wor-  
ship 10:45am, Evening Service 7pm.  
Pastor Michael Yaworski.

## Belfast Wesley United Methodist

**607 School St., Belfast**  
Children's SS & Adult SS 9am, Wor-  
ship 10am, coffee fellowship following  
worship. Pastor Paul Milligan. (610)  
746-3652.

## Benders Mennonite Church

**975 Benders Church Rd., Pen Argyl**  
Sun Worship service every Sunday at  
10:10am; Food Bank 3rd Saturday of  
the month 9-11am. 610-863-9114.

## Bethel Bible Church of Mt. Zion

**7742 N. Delaware Dr. (Rt. 611),**  
**Martins Creek**  
Free Bread Every Saturday, 3eryone  
welcome, questions 908-483-8231;  
Sunday School 9am, Sunday Morning  
Worship 10am. Pastor Rick Tunis, 610-  
250-9890. Learn about us online  
www.bethelbiblechurchofmtzion.org.

## Christ Presbyterian Church

**of the Slate Belt**  
332 Kennedy Dr., Bangor  
Sun.-Worship 10:30 a.m. Rev Albert Martin  
(610)588-4864  
e mail - presbyterianbr@frontiernet.net  
www.facebook.com/Presbyterybr

## Christ Ev. Lutheran Church

**703 South Delaware Drive**  
Mt Bethel, PA 18343  
610-588-7056  
The Rev. Larry Laine  
Worship at 9 AM  
Sunday School 10 AM

## Clearfield Bible Holiness Church

**1502 Bushkill Ctr Rd, Wind Gap**  
Sun- SS 10:15am, Worship 11:15am &  
3pm. Pastor Donald Herrick.  
(812) 653-3975.

## Community Baptist

**Weona Park Center, Pen Argyl**  
Sun - Bible study 7pm. Separate  
class for age 10 & under.