



GEREJA KRISTEN PROTESTAN SIMALUNGUN (GKPS) SIMALUNGUN PROTESTANT CHRISTIAN CHURCH

Central Leadership of GKPS

Ephorus : Pdt Martin Rumanja Purba MSI
Sekretaris Jenderal : Pdt Dr Paul Ulrich Munthe

Dear brothers and sisters,

Pematangsiantar, 18 April 2020

Happy Easter! Our Lord Jesus Christ is risen! Halleluya!

It is the first time in our life to celebrate Easter with our family only at our homes. But we thank God because we believe that He In our church GKPS we have our Sunday Service at home since March 22. Our government announces that the restriction will be up to end of May. For your informaton, I just got information that in Simalungun there are 12 people affected and more than 50 suspect. No one die. In Pematangsiantar, there are 6 people positively affected, and 8 suspect. No one die and 1 already recovered.

I would like to share with you that for Sunday Service, most of our congregations do it at home with a written liturgy and sermon prepared by parish pastor. For our churches in cities we have online or live streaming worship. For Maundy Thursday, Good Friday and Sunday Easter, we did preaching video recording from our Head Office in Pematangsiantar and share it through the Youtube to all congregations. The government has locked-down some cities like Jakarta, Bandung and other cities in Java. In Sumatra, Pekanbaru and West Sumatra also lockdown. In Pematangsiantar dan Simalungun since beginning of this Month the Government has already asked the student to study from home, and the workers also to work from home, later the government instruct the people to stay at home.

For those who are informal workers or daily workers, the government support them financially, but the amount is very small even to buy rice also it is not enough. The driver of public transportation and those who work at the tarditional market also are affected by this situation. Our church has invite people to donate through every local congregations and also through our head office so we can help those people. Last week we distributed rice and eggs to 50 families in Pematangsiantar, and we also distributed 1000 face masks to people in Pematangraya.

We have limited resources so we cannot help more people, but we are happy that some local congregations also help the church members who are struggling for their life because of this Coovid-19 pandemic. As no one know when this problem will be over, so we are thinking what other way we can do to help people in this uncertain situation. We continue to pray that our Lord help the Government, help and protect the doctors and nurses, help the people who are struggling, bless the effort of all organization and church to accompany the church members in this situation. We pray that our Lord will always keep all of us as our song in youtube: It is well with my soul.

We also pray for you brothes and sisters in Germany. We follow the situation in Germany also from TV and nternet. You also are struggling by this uncertain situation. Let us continue to pray for each other. May God bless and keep you always.

Yours,
Rev. Paul Ulrich Munthe
Secretariat General