

To the Citizens of Effingham:

The COVID-19 pandemic has forced itself into our lives and we continue to look to professionals to guide us.

This guidance comes in the form of spirituality, education, awareness, and perseverance. Our spectrum of concern runs from ourselves all the way to our nation as a whole. Worldwide, angst is high and concerns real.

The acts of kindness Americans are demonstrating are inspiring. I am impressed with the stories reported on the news and by citizens here in our city. Keep current on the pandemic, but let's focus on the good in people and the ingenuity of prevention.

Please practice precautionary measures closely and make sure your children know how to safely interact. We are spending our days in a controlled environment, so let's make the best of it. Keep in touch with the elderly and those in need. Notice acts of kindness and freely pass them on. As a family, use your free time wisely. Set good examples, stay busy, be grateful, and pray.

The City Council and governmental leaders are tenaciously working to help all. Most employees are able to work from home; however, many who are first responders, healthcare providers, and even the

employees who stock the shelves face exposure to the virus. Please include them in your thoughts and prayers. Their dedication is our lifeline.

Be vigilant and be good to one another and we will get through this together.

Mike Schutzbach

Mayor