

In-Person Gatherings are Temporarily Suspended

Elders

Harold Carman ❖ Harold Channer
John Durkota ❖ Bob Keen
Ross Mackenzie

Sherwin Mackintosh ❖ Ray Rowan

Evangelists

Tom Brown ❖ Jeff Hickman
Jordan Massey ❖ Kendall Knight

Women's Ministry

Kelly Brown ❖ Lin Ottenweller
LaToya Massey

Youth & Family Ministry

Nick & Brie Shoff

Children's Ministry

Melissa Tulloch

Singles & Young Marrieds

Kendall & Dian Knight

Campus Ministry

Jordan Massey ❖ Cody Porter

Worship & Creative Arts Ministry

Sherwin & Debbie Mackintosh

Administration

Vivian Hanes ❖ Megan Famodun

Missions Teacher

Dr. Douglas Jacoby

YES! Ministry

Jasmine Jackson

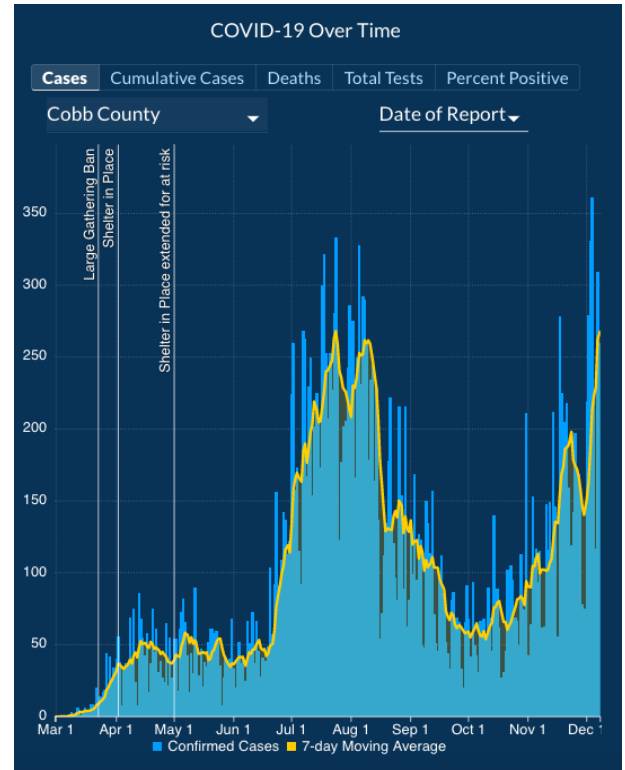
Supporting Mission Efforts In:

Africa, Auburn-Tuskegee,
Chattanooga, Europe, Knoxville

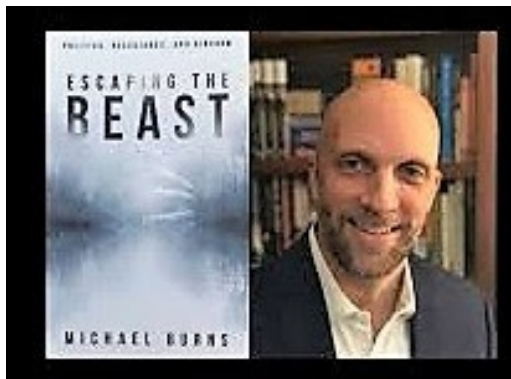
The leadership and coronavirus Task Force at North River has decided to suspend in-person meetings and gatherings on the church campus until at least mid-January to promote health and wellness in light of the pandemic.

Our hearts and prayers go out to our essential workers and those battling illness. Please reach out to your Community leaders if you need support in any way. Here is a video created by our own task force leader, Dr. Kevin Broyles, and includes recommendations as we enter further into the holidays and the pandemic surge: [Click here to view the video](#). This video was made in mid-November, but contains some helpful information, especially about the holidays.

Unfortunately, conditions have continued to get worse here in Georgia, so the numbers have gone up. The chart to the right more accurately reflects our current situation. Let's not give into the temptation to have "caution fatigue" as we protect one another out of love.



Coming Soon: Recording of Wednesday's Midweek with Michael Burns



At Wednesday's All-Church Midweek, many hundreds of disciples from around Atlanta experienced a great combined midweek with Michael Burns. He discussed recent events and the concepts from his book *Escaping the Beast: Politics, Allegiance, and Kingdom*. Please click this link to watch the recording on our YouTube channel: <https://youtu.be/AO4IFEslRO8>.



Communities

East

Jacinto & Rochelle Hall

East Cobb (Sandy Springs)

Tom & Kelly Brown
Stephen & Susan Adkins

Intown

John & Vivian Hanes

Northwest

(Kennesaw, Acworth)
Sherwin & Debbie Mackintosh

Marietta Square

Alex & Jasmine Jackson

North Marietta

(South Woodstock)
Matt & Enid Tchir

South

Gary & Dena Adams

West Cobb

(Smyrna, South Cobb)
Teregi & Anne Coleman

Community Leader/Staff Emails

name@nrcoc.com

(example: tombrown@nrcoc.com)

newsletter@nrcoc.com

320 Austin Ave NE
Marietta, GA 30060
www.nrcoc.org

THRIVE Ministry Holiday Events

This year has been full of adventure and adjustment for the Thrive ministry. Not only were they excited to host last Sunday's service, but they are also thrilled to close out the year with a virtual holiday scavenger hunt on Dec. 19 from 10am to 12pm and a virtual NYE celebration, "Resolute", covering four time zones (9pm-4am). Please be sure to check the website for more details and upcoming THRIVE events.



Holidays with THRIVE

- VIRTUAL HOLIDAY SCAVENGER HUNT**
DECEMBER 19, 2020 10AM
- NEW YEAR'S EVE VIRTUAL CELEBRATION "RESOLUTE"**
DECEMBER 31, 2020 9PM
REGISTER AT
RESOLUTE.EVENTBRITE.COM

Let Us Pray...

I urge, then, first of all, that petitions, prayers, intercession and thanksgiving be made for all people - for kings and all those in authority, that we may live peaceful and quiet lives in all godliness and holiness. This is good, and pleases God our Savior, who wants all people to be saved. — 1 Timothy 2:1-4a

December 13-19, 2020

13 11a Livestream Service	14	15	16 Community Midweek	17	18	19 THRIVE Scavenger Hunt Youth & Family Celebration
Asheville, NC	Savannah, GA	Knoxville, TN	Jackson, MS	Bridge Pointe	Wilmington, NC	Fayetteville, NC

Campus Attendance and Meetings

Just a friendly reminder to everyone that the North River campus is still CLOSED for extracurricular activities and meetings, and we will continue to meet virtually. Until further notice, we are not holding any events on our campus other than to broadcast our Sunday services.

For Your Future Calendars:

- **Dec. 19** : Youth & Family End-of-the Year Celebration
- **Dec. 19** : THRIVE Scavenger Hunt (virtual)
- **Dec. 28-30** : IHATS (International Holidays at the Swamp)
- **Dec. 31** : THRIVE NYE Party "Resolute" (virtual)

Prayer Requests

"Pray in the spirit at all times and on every occasion. Stay alert and be persistent in your prayers for all believers everywhere." - Ephesians 6:18

For specific prayers requests during this time of "social distancing and racial injustice," please email PRAYERS@NRCOC.COM.

Have any prayer requests you would like in the Newsletter? Email Newsletter@NRCOC.com

Special Prayers Requested



"Precious in the sight of the Lord is the death of his faithful servants." Psalms 116:15

Our broken hearts are here to share that our dear sister, Mary Beth Condon, passed away early on Thursday morning, December 2. She had been battling COVID-19 for several weeks, along with her husband, Chris. Hundreds of people around the world were praying for them. Chris is now recovering from the virus, but Mary Beth had been hospitalized and placed in the ICU a few weeks ago.

Mary Beth seemed to be doing better but passed very quickly. Although she was on oxygen, she was never placed on a ventilator and continued to share her faith with the nurses and staff. She placed prayer requests on Facebook and other social media from the hospital bed for every doctor and nurse as they started or ended their shift. She also gave hand-written Scriptures to every one of the staff as they took care of her. She was always thinking about others. She will be dearly missed here, but we know that she is in the loving arms of her Savior, free from all pain and suffering, and singing with the angels.

The Condons are part of Joe and Lisa Craig's Family Group in the Northwest Community, having been lifetime friends since their Boston-days together. Please continue to pray for her husband, Chris, for their entire family, and for all those who knew and loved her.

Coffee Chats: Saturday at 10 am

Ladies, if you didn't get a chance to join us for our coffee chat on Facebook Live yesterday at 10am to hear our very own, Sylvia Wyatt, sharing a lesson on "The Joy of Giving", please click [HERE to listen](#) to her inspiring message.



Contribution

Average Giving in November was \$43,184
Contribution Goal for December is \$47,000

Date	Contribution
Nov. 15	\$35,907
Nov. 22	\$43,362
Nov. 29	\$46,335
Dec. 6	\$50,019

Wait! Don't Stop Now! There's More...

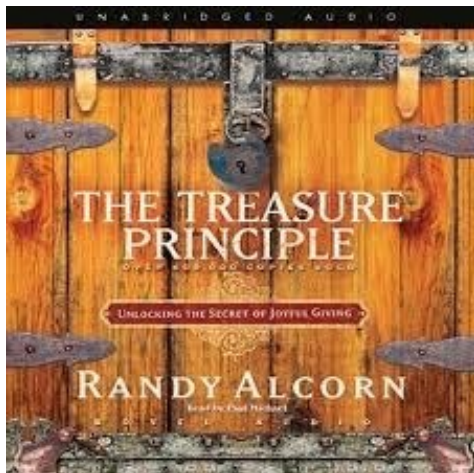


If you are not receiving church updates/alerts through email, please check your spam folder (these messages most often come from kianapickens@nrcoc.com) or contact your Community leader to get your name added to the list.

@NorthRiverCOC



Further Discussion and Reflection



Head over to North River's website to re-watch the "Joy of Giving" sermons and to find Scriptures and discussion questions for further reflection. You can click this link for quick access: <https://nrcoc.org/series/joy-of-giving>

"Do not store up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moths and vermin destroy, and where thieves break in and steal. But store up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where moths and vermin do not destroy, and where thieves do not break in and steal. For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also." Matthew 6:19-21

In-the-Know Shortcuts!



- Visit www.nrcoc.org for information and updates.
- Follow @NorthRiverCOC on [Facebook](#), [Instagram](#), [Twitter](#), and [YouTube](#) for regular updates.
- Watch the [Livestream](#) of services online or Facebook.
- Read the [full newsletter](#) online to get all the information you need.
- Keep your information updated [using this form](#) (bit.ly/2Q9aHRC) to get email updates.
- Give online on [Tithely](#) or to plan regular giving. You can also text GIVE to (470) 460-6991.
- Stay connected with your Family Group and Community leaders. If you don't have one, please contact kianapickens@nrcoc.com or a friend who has invited you.

POSTPONED: 2020 Vision Conference in Orlando



[For all the latest updates go to the website HERE.](#)

It is with mixed emotions that we will be unable to host the VISION Conference in Orlando this summer. However, it has become apparent that the impact of COVID-19 has overshadowed the possibility to actualize this worldwide event this year as planned. We, like many of you, were certainly looking forward to a time of fellowship and celebration, and so this is a disappointment for sure.

So in order to find available dates, we have decided to stagger the conference. Instead of hosting more than 20,000 disciples over

the same four days, we'll see two (2) distinct waves of attendees that will put less demand on the hotels, nearby restaurants, public flow within our venues, and an overall reduction of our mass gatherings at any one time:

NEW DATES FOR THE 2022 WORLD DISCIPLESHIP SUMMIT:

- | | |
|----------------|--|
| JULY 28-31 | ICMC: (Campus) and ISC (Singles) |
| JULY 31-AUG. 3 | ILC: (International Leadership Conference) |
| AUG. 4-7 | FAMILY: (Parents, Single Parents, Kids, Middle & High Schoolers) |
| | FOREVER FAITHFUL: (Empty Nesters, Marrieds w/o Kids, Retirees) |



North River's Vision Statement

We are a diverse family of believers who answered the call to be disciples of Jesus Christ. We are being transformed by God's Word, His Grace, and the Holy Spirit. Through small groups and deep relationships with one another, we join in Jesus' ministry and mission to make and mature disciples while we care for the needs of people. We do this to save as many as possible for the glory of God.

Fix Your Eyes On Jesus



This year's theme at North River is "Fix Your Eyes on Jesus" from Hebrews 12:2. This is especially important for us to do in uncertain times. We started the year studying the entire book of Hebrews, and going forward, we will continue to focus on Jesus more and more. For ways to get more insight, check out the North River [Sermons](#) or [Women's Page](#) for more resources.

Coronavirus Risk Guidelines

Our own Dr. Kevin Broyles came up with [the following chart linked here and on the last page](#) that can help you assess the risk of a social gathering. He based it on the best practices and recommendations of organizations like the CDC, WHO, Johns Hopkins University, and Georgia Department of Public Health, but the chart is not reviewed or endorsed by any of those organizations. The chart is NOT medical advice or a substitute for doing your own research, but it is additional information.

To use it to assess the relative risk of an outdoor or indoor activity, first look at the Outdoors column (if the event you are considering attending will be outdoors) or the Indoors column (if the event is indoors). Find the rows in the Number of People column that accurately describe the number of people at the event. Then ask whether or not everyone is wearing masks (YES in the Mask column) and whether or not everyone is social distancing (YES in the Social Distancing column). The level of risk varies depending on each of these factors.

Join the Crew!

"And God said, 'Let there be light,' and there was light." Genesis 1:3



While God simply yet powerfully spoke it into existence on such a massive scale, North River relies on our talented lighting crew every week to illuminate the sanctuary for our weekly services, helping to set the tone for worship, for which we are exceedingly grateful. Without this crew, our worship team would be heard but unseen. There are currently open positions on the crew, and if you would like to serve in this fashion, we'd love and appreciate your help!

Training is available if you feel motivated but inexperienced. This is a unique opportunity to serve the congregation in a very special way! Please contact Andy Pilcher (andypilcher@nrcoc.com) or Sherwin Mackintosh (sherwinmackintosh@nrcoc.com) for further details.

We have a Podcast!



We will be posting audio content each week with our Sunday sermons going live every Monday morning. In the show notes for the sermons, you'll find study/discussion questions for you and/or your small group! We've also started a devotional program called "Manna in a Minute," with short 1-2 minute devotionals going out multiple times a week. These are designed to help us focus our hearts and minds as we go about our busy week. In addition to this, we are designing additional programming to incorporate into our podcast platform in the coming weeks and months. You can find "North River Podcast" wherever you get your podcasts. Please subscribe and check back regularly!

SUBSCRIBE: NR New Weekly E-Newsletter



While we will continue to update this newsletter and put all baptisms, births, and weddings in the first issue of the month, we want to make sure you get our weekly e-newsletter. These will come from NorthRiverUpdates@NRCOC.com. If you have not been receiving these emails, please search your inbox for the above email address, or [subscribe and update your information here!](#)

Biblical Study Tour: Turkey - Postponed



The tour has been postponed to happen next year, but spaces go very fast. Travel to Turkey (Ephesus, Attalia, Laodicea, Istanbul) with our teacher Douglas Jacoby and brothers and

sisters from around the world to go on a journey that will bring the world of the Bible to life. For more information, visit:

<https://www.douglasjacoby.com/2020-biblical-study-tour-turkey/>.

October 18-25, 2021
(Pretour: October 15-18)

Douglas Jacoby Podcasts Now on Spotify, iTunes, & Google!



Podcasts from Douglas Jacoby's website is available on all podcast platforms (iTunes, Google, and Spotify). Podcasts will be added every Monday, Wednesday, and Friday. You can check them out anywhere you normally listen to podcasts — and

please make sure to subscribe to receive notifications on new posts. You can also follow the episodes, as they are posted, through [THIS LINK](#). We begin with a series on Old Testament characters. The first two episodes are “Adam & Eve” and “Cain & Abel.”

2022 Biblical Study Tours - Postponed in 2021



We hear a good deal of talk about doing what Jesus would *do* (*WWJD?*), but how about walking where Jesus walked? We would like to invite you to join the 2022 annual tour as we return to Israel.

Biblical Study Tour to Israel

Tour Postponed from February 2021 to February 6-13, 2022 (Post Tour February 13-16, 2022)

Paul's Prison Journey — Malta, Sicily, Italy



We will be tracking Paul's final journey in the book of Acts. Join us on this incredible voyage through a truly beautiful and historically fascinating part of the world.

All details can be found on the homepage of Douglas Jacoby at douglasjacoby.com, or shoot an email to dj@douglasjacoby.com to express your interest.

2021 tour postponed to October 29-November 8, 2022

WITW: Where in the World is Douglas Jacoby?

2020	
Dec. 16	London, UK (evidences midweek)
Dec. 17	Thames Valley, UK (Young Pros)
Dec. 18	Final day, World Religions (RMSMT)
Dec. 23	Glasgow & Edinburgh
Jan. 7	Thames Valley, UK
Jan. 8	Abraham & The Old Testament
Jan. 23	Paris, European School of Missions
Feb. 27	Paris, European School of Missions
Mar. 17	Edinburgh (St. Patrick's Day: Prayer)

Learn Sign Language!



Are you interested in learning American Sign Language (ASL)? Please contact Shay Rowe (678-920-3838) or Jamie Mullis (770-366-1881).

3 Easy Ways to Give Online



TITHE.LY

- Online: Visit <https://tithe.ly/give?c=467483>
- App: Download the BLUE Tithe.ly Church App, then search for North River Church of Christ
- Text: Text the word GIVE to (470) 460-6991

You can set up recurring gifts and also cover the processing fees for your donation if you wish. If you have any questions about setting up your giving on Tithe.ly, please call the church office at 770-792-8133 or email meganfamodun@nrcoc.com.

Need a Place to Stay? Have a Room for Rent?



There are several people in the North River family who are looking for housing or roommates. (This includes single women, single men, and sometimes couples)

There ALSO might be those among us who have a spare room, a basement, or an in-law suite. We

would love to match people up and even help start some new spiritual households! If you would like to help or need help, please send any info to our hospitality volunteer to Sierra at sierrapierce19@gmail.com. Pulling all together, we can meet many needs. Thank you.

How to Get Your Kids in Children's Classes

REGISTER NOW!

Please watch the video at <https://bit.ly/2Zu7Xo9> to learn how to register your kids into our program, which will allow you to check them in using our digital check-in process. You can access the form to sign up your child at <http://bit.ly/riverkidsregistration>. **If you do not re-register your kids using these forms, we won't be able to check them into class, so this is very important.** Please feel free to reach out to me or anyone on our team at childrensministry@nrcoc.com or melissatulloch@nrcoc.com with any questions!

A Special Way to Support Camp Swamp

Did you know you can help Camp Swamp when you do your online shopping with one simple extra step? Simply visit smile.amazon.com, do your shopping, and upon check out, Amazon will donate a share of your purchase to Swamp Camp Services Inc. No extra fees! Shop till you drop and support Camp Swamp.

amazonsmile

Thanks, Jeff Rorabaugh

Contact the Newsletter Team

Like this newsletter? Have something you'd like posted here? Want to help out? Awesome! Please email: newsletter@nrcoc.com. **Requests sent to other email addresses may or may not find their way to the newsletter team in time!** We try to accommodate everyone and would hate to miss an important announcement sent to an email address not checked regularly. The weekly deadline is Wednesday at midnight to newsletter@nrcoc.com. Announcements or requests received after the deadline may not be included. Thanks, the Newsletter Team.

Requesting a Room or Building at North River

As good stewards of all that God gives us, let us keep the following in mind concerning our buildings:

- Treat the buildings as though they are your home. (They are!)
- To request a spot go to www.nrcoc.org, [click on Resources and select Facility Request](#). Easily fill out and submit from a phone or laptop.
- All private events for members (weddings, birthday or grad parties, showers, etc.), will incur charges.
- HVAC systems and security are scheduled ahead of time, so we ask that you put in all requests **at least two weeks before your event**. Most requests are processed within 48 hours.
- Members and guests are not permitted to use any rooms without a reservation.
- Bear with each other if you don't get your desired spot – or for the time you need it. Flexibility is key!
- **Reminder: The FLC and The Lighthouse are NUT-FREE.** Please keep this in mind when bringing lunch or potluck meals. Thank you for keeping those with serious food allergies safe.

Thanks for cooperating. Please send your questions to events@nrcoc.com.

Helpful Guide for Potential Coronavirus Risk

by Kevin Broyles - 25 May 2020

*The levels of risk are based upon current national and local data and medical opinion.
The data and guidelines are not black and white; we are in a gray zone.*

Type of Meeting	Number of People*	Outdoors	Indoors	Mask*	Social Distancing*	Level of Risk*
Virtual	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	0
In Person	5 or less		YES	YES	YES	1
In Person	10 or less	YES		YES	YES	1
In Person	6 or more		YES	YES	YES	2
In Person	11 or more	YES		YES	YES	2
In Person	5 or less		YES	NO	YES	3
In Person	5 or less		YES	YES	NO	3
In Person	10 or less	YES		NO	YES	3
In Person	10 or less	YES		YES	NO	3
In Person	6 or more		YES	YES	YES	3
In Person	11 or more	YES		YES	YES	3
In Person	6 or more		YES	NO	YES	4
In Person	6 or more		YES	YES	NO	4
In Person	11 or more	YES		NO	YES	4
In Person	11 or more	YES		YES	NO	4
In Person	5 or less		YES	NO	NO	4
In Person	10 or less	YES		NO	NO	4
In Person	6 or more		YES	NO	NO	5
In Person	11 or more	YES		NO	NO	5

* Potential Level of Risk 0 - no risk 1 - very low risk 2 - low risk 3 - moderate risk 4 - high risk 5+ - very high risk

Potential Risk Calculator	Virtual	0 Point
	Not virtual - face to face	Add 1 Point
	Indoors > 5 people or Outdoors > 10 people	Add 1 Point
	Not wearing masks	Add 1 Point
	Not social distanced	Add 1 Point
	Older, Immune Compromised, Chronic Diseases	Add 1 Point

- * **Number of People** CDC recommendations: Indoors group of 5 or less people, Outdoors group of 10 or less people
- * **Mask** Remember: Masks are helpful to keep you from spreading coronavirus to others, they do not keep you from getting an infection.
- * **Distancing** CDC distancing recommendations based on activity:
 - Normal activity (conversation, walking) - 6 feet apart
 - Vigorous activity (like exercise, sports, singing, forceful speaking) 12 feet apart
 Time of exposure: longer times (>15 minutes) are more risk than short times
 Do not expose others or be exposed to anyone with symptoms: cough, fever, flu or cold-like symptoms, or recent exposure to a COVID-19 positive individual
 Smaller spaces have higher risks (bathrooms, elevators)
- Hygiene** Wash your hands frequently (5x/day - reduces risk by 35%)
 Clean exposed surfaces
 Do not touch your face, eyes, mouth
- Current Thoughts**
 - Transmission** Up to 40% of people can be contagious before they have symptoms
 - Transmission** 35% of people infected will never have symptoms
 - Social distancing** Without social distancing it was estimated that the USA would have had 35 times the number of deaths
 - Children** 150 cases of pediatric multi-system inflammatory syndrome after have COVID-19 infection
 - Contact Tracing** Georgia Public Health Department will begin tracing contacts in the near future
 - Vaccine** Some optimism from one company about an effective vaccine - would be available January 2021 at the earliest
 - Treatment** Some positive results from remdesivir combined with other medications in hospitalized patients
 - Treatment** No scientific evidence that hydroxychloroquine or chloroquine is helpful to prevent or treat, some evidence it is harmful.
 - Antibody Test** A qualitative test. It is either positive or negative (doesn't measure level of antibody)
 - Antibody Test** Becomes positive after 7-14 days of exposure or symptoms. If tested too early - may get a false negative.
 - Antibody Test** Positive test doesn't mean immunity.

The information provided in this document is intended for general knowledge only and is not a substitute for professional medical advice or treatment for specific medical conditions. You should not use this information to diagnose or treat a health problem or disease without consulting with a qualified healthcare provider. Please consult your healthcare provider with any questions or concerns you may have regarding your condition. This chart is not endorsed by the CDC or any government agency. The results are meant to help you assess relative levels of risk, but may not be reliable based on your facts or your situation. Please also check local statistics and data for your geographic area for additional risk assessment information.

References:

- Georgia Department of Health: <https://dph.georgia.gov/>
- Centers for Disease Control and Prevention: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-nCoV/index.html>
- World Health Organization: <https://www.who.int/emergencies/diseases/novel-coronavirus-2019/situation-reports>
- Johns Hopkins - Coronavirus Resource Center: <https://coronavirus.jhu.edu/map.html>
- Institute for Health Metrics and Evaluation: <https://covid19.healthdata.org/united-states-of-america>
- Worldometer: <https://www.worldometers.info/coronavirus/>