



March 19, 2020

Friends,

I hope this finds everyone well. We are all still well here at the shop and grateful to be able to say this. At this time, I want to give you an update on things here. I have made the decision to go ahead and close the shop **temporarily** after this Saturday. We will be open today, Friday and Saturday from 10 AM to 2 PM. Many have come in to stock up on thread, fabrics and batting, as well as other needed items to keep themselves busy while they are at home. We all have done a good job at social distancing and are being cautious, but the time has come, I feel, to close. At this point, I am saying through March 29th. We may very well be closed beyond that date, so I ask that you check either our website or our Facebook page for up to date announcements concerning the shop. I will take this a week at a time, as I just do not know what the future holds. All we can do is take it week by week, or really, day by day.

In the meantime, you can still shop us even while we are closed. I will be coming in most days to process online orders and to answer the phones as long as I am able to do so. I will be using that time to put as much as my inventory on-line and I encourage you to do your shopping there. We do have a Pick Up at Store option that you can select rather than the shipping option. You can pay with your PayPal account or credit card. I will process your order and contact you when you can pick it up. If you prefer to have it shipped, I can do that also. Please be aware that our shopping cart estimates shipping. If you prefer to phone in your order, that is also an option. If you call the shop and do not get an answer, you can email me and I will know to call you when I get back to the shop. I am receiving well over 100 emails per day, so if you put REQUEST FOR WENDY as the subject, it will help me find your email quicker and ensure I don't accidentally overlook it. I will also be communicating with you on Facebook using the Facebook Live video feature. I will be doing the first one this Saturday at 2 PM for our Mystery BOM group, but you all are welcome to join in as I will be showing the newest pretty things that have arrived here at the shop. In times like this, we must be creative and explore other avenues to keep in touch. Amy, Eileen and I have been brainstorming ideas this morning to keep us all connected and I will share them as I am able to work them out.

To those of you are on the front lines of this, our wonderful healthcare workers and first responders, I thank you for your service to our community. To our USPS Postal carriers and

workers, UPS, FedEx and other package delivery team members that are helping small businesses be able to generate some revenue now, not to mention keeping us all stocked on things we may not be able to get out and get, I thank you. To the truck drivers, pilots and others that are keeping goods flowing in this country, I also thank you. To all the others who are continuing to work for the good of the community, I salute you, too.

I also want to thank those of you who understand the importance of shopping local. Your patronage is always appreciated, but especially in times like this. From the bottom of my heart, I say thank you! This is a trying time for small businesses, as it is for everyone.

I encourage you to look for the positives during this time, because they are there if you look for them. This can be an opportunity to do things we usually do not have the time to do, like cleaning out closets, sewing, trying new recipes, reading that book you got for Christmas, sewing, organizing your sewing space, and oh, did I mention sewing? Embrace those things. Keeping a positive outlook is going to be important for each of us. It is also a great time to be thinking about those that might be vulnerable and in need of our help. Each of us should do what we can for the good of others. Viruses are not the only thing that are contagious. Things like kindness, love, patience and smiles are also contagious. Be the one to brighten someone's day, even if it is just a phone call to check on an elderly friend. Those who live alone may be dealing with loneliness and feelings of isolation. A phone call may be just what they need. Facetime might even be better! I enjoy hearing the creative things that people are doing to impact the lives of others right now. It is very heartwarming. None of us knows what the future holds with this virus right now, but I do know who holds the future in His Hands, and in Him I trust. Here are some verses from God's Word to offer comfort and hope during these uncertain times. Don't be discouraged.

[Psalm 46:1](#) [Psalm 61:1-3](#) [Palm 91:1-6](#) [Joshua 1:9](#) [Isaiah 40:31](#) [John 16:33](#)

May God bless each of you with peace and good health. You are in my prayers.

Sincerely,

Wendy

My email address: wendy@amongfriendsquiltshop.com