

Hello Servant's Church Family,

I know that this is the message many of you have been waiting for: it's time to resume meeting for worship on Sunday morning! Based on the new state guidelines recently issued by our governor, and consistent with advice from medical professionals, we plan to start meeting for worship again on **Sunday, June 14.**

Because we want to proceed safely for all of our people, we will not just go back to what we were doing before the shutdown. It is important for us to be careful, and to make adjustments as needed along the way. For now, we will gather again using **two services** so that there is plenty of room in the building to spread people out at a safe distance. Here are some other important things for you to know as we return to in-person worship services:

1. Families will sit together in the sanctuary, either in a cluster of chairs or on a blanket (you bring) on the floor. Please do not sit closely to people outside your own household.
2. We will not have a passing of the peace during our service. Before and after the services, please maintain a six foot distance from others as you talk with them outside our building.
3. We will not have children's ministries until the health situation improves. We want you to bring your children to the service. We will provide children's bulletins, crayons, coloring pages, pencils, etc., and you can also bring something to entertain children if you wish..
4. Everyone needs to wear a mask while inside our building, except for small children and people medically unable to do so. Masks will be provided if you do not have one. People who are speaking for all to hear will remove their mask to be heard clearly, but will remain up on the platform to avoid a risk of spreading germs.
5. We will continue to send out video worship resources as we have done for the past three months for those who are not ready to return to in-person worship. Audio recordings of weekly sermons will also be available on our website.
6. The drinking faucet and coffee station will not be available.
7. We will have someone out in front of church to welcome people and explain the new format that includes social distancing.
8. We will clean the facility between and after the two services, and will post instructions in the bathrooms for proper washing after each use. Please arrive for worship just a few minutes before it begins and leave promptly after the service ends so that we have enough time to complete this cleaning.
9. Our next communion service is not scheduled until July 5. We are currently exploring safe options for how to do that at that time.
10. Everyone is being assigned to one of the two services according to the contact groups we have been using to keep in contact for the past three months:
 - **9:30 service:** If your contact person was Bill Beatty, Ben Beltman, Joe Drouillard, or Lisa Fox.
 - **11:00 service:** If your contact person was Ann Heerde, Sara Melton, Chris Novakowski, or Scott Penning.

- If you are not sure about what group you are in, or if you have a special need to change to a different service, please let me know. We want to be sure that we divide our attendance as evenly as we can so that neither service has too many or too few people, but we also want to be open to your special needs.

At this time, our Wednesday evening Family Feast will continue to use a take-home meal system until things change to allow us to again eat together around the tables. All of these guidelines will be continually reviewed going forward. We will do whatever we can to maintain safety standards and social distancing as we move gradually towards our new normal practice.

Welcome back to Servant's Church! I'm looking forward to seeing you again in person on Sunday, June 14.

Blessings!

Mark

Mark Veldt

Pastor, Servant's Community Church

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