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| |  | | --- | | **One Example letter explaining Church re-gathering** Dear Church Family,   This is a lengthy email, but I would ask that you take the time to read it.   As we continue to navigate this current COVID-19 situation, one of the questions I am frequently asked is, “When will we be able to worship on campus again?”  For a pastor, this is an encouraging question to hear!    This question has also been on the hearts of your leadership.  With that in mind, the Session has approved the Worship Committee’s recommendation to resume a measured and phased plan for on-campus worship beginning this Sunday, May 17.   Below are the details of Phase 1:   * We will have two worship services: our traditional service at 8:30 a.m. and our blended service at 11:00 a.m.  Both the services will be live-streamed on our church website and Facebook for those who are not on campus. * We will offer on-campus worship in multiple places on campus including the sanctuary, our overflow room (Room 8) and the gym with the services simulcast from the sanctuary. * We will abide by the social distancing recommendations issued by the State of Where you Live:   + You may wear a face mask if you prefer. (Greeters and Ushers will be wearing face masks)   + Those with underlying health conditions, including high blood pressure, chronic lung disease, diabetes, obesity, asthma, and those whose immune system is compromised such as by chemotherapy for cancer and other conditions requiring such therapy are encouraged to continue worshipping online   + Those 65 or older are encouraged to continue worshipping online or in the sanctuary * There will be no Sunday School, nursery, or Children’s Church * Greeters and Ushers will assist and direct the flow of entering and exiting the worship spaces. The plan is to dismiss by rows following worship to allow for physical distancing. * We will have no coffee or refreshments, nor will we be passing things in worship such as the offering plate.  You will have the opportunity to give as you leave worship.   **We ask that you remain at home if you or anyone you live with can answer “yes” to any of the following questions:**   * Have you been in close contact with a confirmed case of COVID-19? * Are you experiencing a cough, shortness of breath or sore throat? * Have you had a fever in the last 48 hours? * Have you experienced new loss of taste or smell? * Have you experienced vomiting or diarrhea in the last 24 hours?   **Here are some precautions that we are asking you to take when considering on-campus worship:**   * Anyone who is not comfortable gathering with groups of any size is asked to continue to join via Livestream * We are reserving the sanctuary for our vulnerable population. For those who consider themselves less vulnerable, please worship in the gym * We ask that you arrive no earlier than 10 minutes before the service * We will have hand sanitizer available * Please be mindful of what you touch * Due to no children’s activities or nursery, please make sure that your children stay with you at all times * We ask that you and your family stay 6 feet apart from others attending the worship gathering * We ask that you keep two chairs separating you and your family from others * Please wash your hands before and after using the restrooms * When the service ends, please exit the facilities completely to allow our cleaning team to begin cleaning the facility. We will be cleaning the facilities as best as possible after each service. This will take many volunteers! If you're interested in being a part of the cleaning team, please contact Deacon SoSo (deaconsoso@yahoo.com)   Let me add that no congregant should feel pressured to come to the worship services if they are uncomfortable worshipping on campus at this time.  Please pray and evaluate your own personal situation.  Our leadership encourages you to seek God and His wisdom.  You won’t be “looked down on” for continuing to worship with your church family at home.    One final thought…  The Old Testament book of Ezra tells the story of the Israelites rebuilding the glorious temple of Solomon.  When the builders laid the foundation, the priests came forward along with the musicians to praise and give thanks to God.  Ezra tells us that many of the priests and others who had seen the original temple wept because the second temple didn’t compare with the first.  That may well be our experience this Sunday.  For those worshipping on campus, please don’t expect worship to be "how it was" before we suspended on-campus services.  It will be different.  Yet, as has been true in these past weeks, it will still be the case that we will be meeting with the true and living God this Sunday.  As always, He is the focus of our worship.   Please contact ­\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, Chairman of our Worship Committee ([\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_@yahoo.com](mailto:________@yahoo.com)) or me ([yourpastor@yourchurchpca.org)](mailto:yourpastor@yourchurchpca.org)), or the church office (phone #)  if you have questions or need further information.   As always, I look forward to worshipping with you Sunday!   In Christ, Pastor \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ | |