

Brothers and Sisters In Christ,

I greatly appreciate your faithfulness these past months in the midst of the covid crisis. We can be thankful for the researchers presently focusing on a vaccine, which could restore some of the peace of mind recently lost. And we can thank God that the virus has come close to some of our own, both congregation and CDC, but without life threatening consequences. God is good! Let us be diligent in prayer for His protections over our immediate and extended church family.

It is obvious that things are headed toward a new normal. It is also obvious that this new normal is still evolving, with many specifics yet to be determined. In this time of uncertainty we must realize that everyone will process the information and risk differently. Each individual and family must decide how they will best manage their health. We will get through this crisis together, and I believe we will be a stronger church on the other side of it.

I am beginning to schedule some meetings with committee leaders. I see those meetings conducted in the sanctuary, or Fellowship Hall, generously spaced out. We need to get back to conducting the necessary business of the church in the safest possible way. And as tenuous as present circumstances seem, we are still responsible for creating a viable future for our church. It is my hope to return to our Forward Focus effort with the same energy and optimism that was building when we were forced to slow down. We seemed to be right on the edge of some very fruitful discussions. Given our love for Berea Friendship, I feel we can quickly get our edge back, and move forward safely.

I am going to add to our worship services, as I am sensing a desire by some to worship in the sanctuary again. The sanctuary has been socially distanced, and with the numbers I anticipate we can be very generously distanced. There are 52 seating locations that easily accommodate two people. As worship leader I will not be wearing a mask, but I encourage you do so, if you are willing. We will follow the safety suggestions and guidelines put out by the Conference, and worship as safely as possible. For those who desire to be in the sanctuary, your opportunity begins this Sunday 6/21/20. We will have in sanctuary services through 7/12/20, and evaluate our moving forward after worship on 7/12/20. I am willing to be there for any reasonable number of dedicated worshippers desiring to be in the sanctuary. I want everyone in the congregation to have an opportunity to worship comfortably. Joan will be there to provide our music. We are going to have to make joyful noises to the Lord as best we can! That being said, here is what worship opportunities will look like for the next four weeks.

- (1) **8:30am to 9:30am** - Come As You Are Parking Lot Service. These folks are comfortable where they are, and want to be outside weather permitting.
- (2) **9:30am to 10.00am** - Bible Study in the sanctuary, or any place deemed best by those interested. I will teach, and hope to get other teachers to volunteer as well.
- (3) **10:00am to 11:00am** - Worship in the Sanctuary.
- (4) The recorded message will be on social media as usual.
- (5) Worship together this Sunday as seems best for you.

Much Love In Christ,  
Pastor Davon

