

## Leadership Board Decision Delaying Re-Opening Church to Indoor Services

Dear Friends in Christ,

Since the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic, Pastor Jay, Staff, and the Leadership Board members have been monitoring the testing statistics and have been considering how to best provide meaningful, yet safe worship and service opportunities for members and guests. The Pastor and Board have developed a responsible and thorough set of Indoor Worship Protocol and Procedures, and provided training in their use for service assistants. We were looking forward to opening the Church for inside services the weekend of October 3-4, 2020.

Unfortunately, we observed a distinct rise in COVID-19 positive test cases since the start of September and onset of the school year. This included new peak daily counts at Waukesha County and State levels on September 25-26 and also some school quarantines. As such, the Leadership Board met via Zoom on September 30, 2020 to evaluate the planned re-opening to inside services the weekend of October 3-4, 2020.

We reviewed the case history with respect to the: 1) Waukesha County COVID metrics (looking for a 14-day downward trend); 2) Concern for the safety of Church Staff; and 3) Quarantine data from Pewaukee and other school districts. The Board decided that the risk and potential impacts of the currently rising infection rates made it impractical to open the Church for indoor services as previously scheduled for the first weekend of October. We decided to:

- 1. Delay services for at least another two weeks.**
- 2. Hold another outdoor service the weekend of October 18, 2020. (Similar to the previous services with final details worked out at the October 15 Board meeting.)**
- 3. Conduct a short Annual Meeting following the service.**

In the meantime, Pastor Jay will continue to provide online “resources” as inspirational worship aids and will continue to provide ministry needs of members. His Wednesday Text Study also remains an opportunity to both connect with fellow members and the Word.

Sunday School has started with teachers emailing instructions out to parents for home instruction. We will continue along this path until the school districts are able to operate safely.

Church secretarial staff has returned to work in-person and the church doors are open. Anyone needing to visit Pastor Jay or the Staff should still make an appointment in advance. Masks will be required when more than one person is in any enclosed area.

Opening the facility to inside, in-person use by Small Groups, Tenants, and others are presently still suspended, but will follow once the opening of the church has begun.

We appreciate your continued patience and prayers for all of us as we work to re-establish normalcy in the wake of COVID-19. God Bless you all.

Steve Hanson  
Leadership Board