

## Special Message to Congregation

### May 19, 2020

**Great News!** We will be open for Sunday morning worship service this Sunday, May 24. There will be one service which will be held at 11:00. At this time, there will be no Sunday School or nursery available. A letter was sent by Delaware pastors to the Governor last week outlining certain safety guidelines they would follow if churches could open sooner rather than later. The Governor responded affirmatively Monday. **Praise God for answered prayers!**

There will be certain safety guidelines that will be in effect. Those state guidelines will be posted by all entrances to the building.

- Do not enter if: you are at high-risk for contracting COVID-19 (65 and older or have underlying health conditions identified by the CDC as higher risk); have a cough, high fever, shortness of breath; or have been exposed to anyone who has tested positive with COVID-19 in the past 14 days;
- Individuals age 13 and up are required to wear a cloth face covering to enter and remain inside (cloth face covering is recommended but not required for children ages 2-12);
- Social distancing of 6 feet or more is required to remain inside – no handshaking, hugging, kissing is allowed (however, families and members of the same household may remain together).

I know this will be hard for those of us who are 65 and older and feel healthy but I ask you to please cooperate with church leadership as we navigate our way to the time we can all be together again. The Sunday service will be livestreamed over the church website at 11:00 Sunday morning. It will also be available for viewing at a later time as it will also be recorded and you can access from the church website.

**This Sunday:** There will be three areas open for worship: limited seating in sanctuary and overflow will be in gym and room 152 where services will be broadcast. Seating capacity will be 30% of fire code allowance in each area.

The following procedures will need to be followed for those attending services:

- Please put on a facemask before exiting your car.
- You will be directed to one of three entrances by parking lot assistants to either the sanctuary doors, gym door, or education building door.
- Use church hand sanitizer as you enter the building.
- An usher will direct you to designated seating areas – families will sit together.
- If elementary children need to use the bathroom, they must be accompanied by an adult.
- Bathrooms will need to be disinfected after each use so please only use in an emergency.
- Offering plates will not be passed – there will be a box in each seating area for people to place their offering.
- At the conclusion of the service, remain seated until an usher directs you to leave.
- Leave building immediately using hand sanitizer as you leave.
- When talking with people in the parking lot, please maintain 6-foot distancing.

You can assist us greatly in our planning if we know about how many will be attending. Please email Nancy Saba [nsaba@fccde.org](mailto:nsaba@fccde.org) if you are planning on attending. I want to thank you in advance for your compliance as we move toward all of us being together in the near future.

In His service,  
Bill Cloues  
Elder Chairman

*"May our Lord Jesus Christ himself and God our Father encourage you and strengthen you in every good thing you do and say. God loved us, and through his grace he gave us a good hope and encouragement that continues forever."*

*2 Thessalonians 2:16,17*