

July 1, 2020

Dear Members and Friends,

We pray you and your loved ones are well and thank you for your patience in this time of great uncertainty with the COVID-19 pandemic. Session has received the report of the Regathering Task Force. We thank them for their time and dedication. We have also approved the installation of livestreaming equipment which will allow for members who stay home to continue to participate in worship. The following measures adhere to the Governors Executive Orderⁱ and, we believe, are in keeping with our commitment to care for our congregation.

These are the primary additional measures we will take:

- Provide a simple means to register to attend worship
- Send you electronic versions of the bulletin in advance
- Define a limited number of entrances and exits and limit occupancy areas on campus
- Require all worship attendees to wear masks
- Take temperature of attendees with infrared forehead scanners
- Lay out social distance floor and pew markers
- Usher you to and from the pews to enable social distancing
- Provide hand sanitizer at entrances and restrooms
- Initially suspend childcare to reduce risk of exposure
- Reduce worship time to minimize time for exposure
- Provide soloists in place of choir and congregational singing
- Limit recitation of prayers and other readings to worship leaders
- Pre-place offering plates on narthex tables for tithes and offerings
- Suspend after worship fellowship time

This is what we are asking of you:

- Register each week if you plan to attend worship
- Remain home if you are not feeling well, especially if you have a fever
- Wear a mask (if you forget, we will provide you with one)
- Abide by social distance guidelines
- Pass the peace in spirit, not touch (the peace sign is great)

To complete our work, we ask that you take the survey which you will receive next Wednesday, July 8. This will allow us to assess our congregation's readiness to return to in-person worship and plan a date accordingly. We anticipate the earliest will be August.

We thank you for your commitment to our ministry and pray for you as we look forward to when we can gather again.

Revs. Patrick and Sarah Dennis

ⁱ <https://www.governor.virginia.gov/media/governorvirginiagov/governor-of-virginia/pdf/Forward-Virginia-Phase-Three-Guidelines.pdf>