

Philippians 2:1-3: *"If you have any encouragement from being united with Christ, if any comfort from his love, if any fellowship with the Spirit, if any tenderness and compassion, then make my joy complete by being like-minded, having the same love, being one in spirit and purpose. Do nothing out of selfish ambition or vain conceit, but in humility consider others better than yourselves."*

Dear Evergreen,

This week, your elders met together via a zoom conference call to discuss Evergreen's best plan for continuing worship. Following this discussion, your elders have prayerfully and carefully decided that we will **begin meeting inside** the River Plantation Conference Center **this Sunday, June 28, 2020**. This action is **Phase II*** of our larger plan and strategy that the Session has been working on since March.

My suggestion: There are **three basic principles** that our leaders will use to make decisions about what activities to do and how during Phase 2.

1. **Outdoor activities** wherever feasible.
2. Use of **Masks** whenever it is not.
3. **Protection of the vulnerable** at all times.

***Here are our plans for Phase II:**

1. If you show symptoms of COVID-19, such as fever or coughing, we encourage you to stay home. If you have been in close contact with someone with those symptoms, we encourage you to stay home as well.
2. We encourage everyone to **wear a mask** in indoor worship except when leading in singing or speaking. Masks will be provided, or you can bring your own.
3. Gloves will also be available if you want to use them. Hand sanitizer will be available throughout the building.
4. If you arrive early and want to fellowship, **we ask that you do so outside** leaving space for people to get into the building.
5. We ask that you **not congregate in the narthex**.
6. **Seats will be spaced apart**, and we will use both sections of the Conference Center. We ask that family units sit together, spaced apart.
7. Offering will be taken but without passing the plate. We encourage you to consider giving online or by mailing in a check.
8. Lord's Supper will be served from sealed packets.
9. The River Plantation Conference staff will sanitize the entire building prior to the service.
10. Prior to the last song, **we ask parents who want their children to participate in children's church to bring them to the outside area where it will be held**.

11. During the last song, you are invited to quietly depart, if you do not desire to be a part of the fellowship time.
12. After the service, please wait for ushers to dismiss you to avoid clogging the narthex. **If you desire to stay for fellowship time, we ask that you do so outside**, weather permitting, or with the use of a mask, when it does not.
13. We ask that you remember that some people are less comfortable with touching and close contact at this time and be sensitive of this during fellowship time.
14. **Children's church will take place outside**, and children will be spaced apart. You may feel free to have your child wear a mask, if you feel comfortable with that.
15. Smaller group activities are permitted, but we urge that you do so **outdoors** or inside with the use of masks.
16. We will continue Wednesday Prayer Meeting and Sunday School on Zoom.

It's been months since we have been together in the same building and we look forward to seeing you and worshipping together as a church family!

We all have varying opinions concerning the current virus. Some have no concern at all, while others struggle with worries for themselves and others in their family for legitimate reasons. Let's remember to "do nothing out of selfish ambition or vain conceit, but in humility consider others better than yourselves."

"A new command I give you: Love one another. As I have loved you, so you must love one another. By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you love one another." John 13:34-35.

Let's love each other and love each other well.

If you have any questions or concerns, please don't hesitate to reach out.

Jeremy R Daley
Clerk of Session
Evergreen Church