

May 5, 2020

FROM: The Elders, Columbiana Church of Christ

TO: All members

SUBJECT: Resuming services

Dear Brothers and Sisters:

We've all been praying for this pandemic to recede enough to allow us to resume meeting, and we believe that time has finally come. Lord willing, we intend to start meeting again **next Sunday, May 10**. However, we will not be able to immediately go back to doing everything the way we've always done. There will have to be some accommodations and adaptations. We ask for your prayers, patience, and cooperation in this.

It appears that we will have to practice social distancing for some time. Here is the way this will work:

- There will be one worship service on Sunday morning. (No classes yet and no Sunday night or Wednesday night services. By our estimates, we can only seat 80-90 people at this service, depending on the number of people in each family unit.
- There will be a 45-minute service at 10:30 am We will maintain social distancing by having markers on the pews where people can sit. Please sit only in marked areas. Families who live in the same household can sit together.
- About parking: We will strive to maintain one empty space between each parked car and the adjacent one.
- Please be sure to maintain social distancing when using restrooms.
- There will be no song books available—we will use the projection screen to display the songs for worship.
- There will be no passing out of communion emblems or collection trays. As each person comes in, they will be handed an individual communion set by a deacon wearing a mask and gloves. At the proper time, the communion leader will bless the elements and each person will take each element at the same time. The collection will be taken at the end of the service. There will be a box at the exit for you to make your contribution.
- Bulletins will also not be available until the end of the service. They will be handed to you as you leave.

Here is what you can do to help make all this work:

- Please email [churchofchristcolumbiana@gmail.com](mailto:churchofchristcolumbiana@gmail.com) or call one of the elders as soon as possible and let us know if you plan to attend or not. This will help us plan for appropriate seating.
- If you have any symptoms of sickness, or are running a fever, or if you are in a high-risk group and don't feel comfortable about coming, **please stay home**. We will not fault you for your decision. We will continue to livestream the worship for those who are not able to attend at this time. We are striving to improve the livestream and are waiting for some new equipment to arrive that will help with the process.
- Please wear a mask in the assembly. It's been shown that singing causes increased outpouring of respiratory droplets. The mask can simply be a bandanna if you do not have another type. NOTE: We are not setting this condition of wearing a mask because of any government requirement. However, given the elderly nature of our congregation, this is a decision of the elders to protect our members.
- Please respect the seating arrangements and please use social distancing in all common areas, aisles, and restrooms.
- Please do your greeting of brethren and socializing outside the building.
- And also please take out your trash when you leave the assembly. There will be a trash can by the doors as you exit the auditorium.

We all look forward to seeing each other and assembling to worship God. See you Sunday, God willing. –The Elders