



July 2, 2020

The continually changing nature of the Covid-19 pandemic has been nothing but transformational in the life of our church. It has required a herculean “pivot” overnight from a primarily high-touch in-person ministry to one of high-tech virtual, while serving the congregation and community in new ways.

The Reopening Advisement Group presented a return to in-person worship plan which has been approved by the Session, and a tentative reopening date set for July 12. However, it has become apparent just in the past week that the circumstances surrounding Covid-19 infections in our community have changed rapidly, necessitating a change of plans to reopen for in-person worship.

There has been a marked increase in cases in our community, although we are unsure of its effect on our specific population. The governor has also extended the Public Health State of Emergency for Georgia until August 11.

In the interest of safety, the Reopening Advisement Group unanimously supports a further delay in the return to in-person worship until we are reasonably assured that Covid-19 impact is not a significant threat to the safety and well-being of our congregation, staff, and visitors as they worship together.

A new date will be evaluated, assessed, approved, and announced in the coming weeks.

In the meantime, virtual programming will continue with worship at 11 am on Sunday mornings, Wednesday Prayer Service, Sunday School, Compassion Camp, and food distribution missions, along with individual group meetings on Zoom.

Additional information will be coming to you next week with the details of how we will return to in-person worship, and other activities.

Please keep our front-line healthcare workers in your prayers – our congregation is indebted to those who provide care to those who are sick. Pray also for those for whom isolation, quarantine, and shelter-in-place has been extremely difficult; and for those whose lives have been challenged by lack of employment due to shut-downs of businesses of all kinds.

The peace of Christ be with you all,

*Your Re-Opening Advisement Group*

*Be strong, and let your heart take courage, all you who wait for the LORD. Psalm 31:24*