



## FAYETTE BAPTIST CHURCH

*Communicating Christ to the Community*

Good afternoon church family! It has been so good to see so many of you over the past three weeks as we have begun to regather for services here at our church facility. I am so grateful for the opportunities we've had to fellowship with one another, encourage one another, pray for one another, sing with one another, and study God's Word with one another. I have never been more convinced of our need to love and serve one another.

We would like to update you on how we are planning to proceed with regards to attending services here at our facility and the safety guidelines we will be following.

Beginning this Sunday, July 5<sup>th</sup>, you will no longer need to reserve your seats ahead of time. We will currently be offering one service at 9:00 AM, where we will continue to use both the sanctuary and the café for seating.

Beginning this Sunday, we will be opening the balcony up as a space that is dedicated for those of you who may be at a greater risk and/or are choosing to be more cautious with regards to social distancing. For those who wish to use this seating option, we ask that you wear a mask for the duration of the service. (Please note: those who are wearing masks are free to sit wherever they would like but those without masks will not be allowed to sit in the balcony.)

We recognize that everyone has differing levels of comfort with regards to handshakes, hugs, and the amount of space between you and those you are conversing with. Out of our commitment to love and serve one another we will continue to practice social distancing while inside our building during the service. We want to make sure we are creating a welcome and safe space where those who are concerned about risk are able to gather with their brothers and sisters for worship, fellowship, encouragement, and instruction in God's Word.

Once the service has concluded we encourage you to take time to visit and fellowship with one another after you have made your way outside. Our playground is open and there is plenty of space for everyone to spend meaningful time with one another at a distance that each of you are comfortable with.

I want to let you know that your pastors and elders have continued to seek the Lord's guidance, through prayer and through His Word, on how He would have us to best fulfill our calling to shepherd the flock that He has placed in our care as we navigate through waters we have never traveled. We remain committed to helping our church family fulfill Jesus' command to "Love

the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind,” and to “Love your neighbor as yourself,” as we engage in the great commission He gave us, to “go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you.”

For those who are not yet comfortable to return to services, we will continue to upload the Sunday morning service to our youtube channel by 6:00 PM on Sunday evening. We want you to know that we love you, we are praying for you, and we are here for you. Let us all double down our resolve to journey through these challenging times....together! Our prayer for you is the same prayer that Jesus prayed in John 17. “My prayer is not for them alone. I pray also for those who will believe in me through their message, that all of them may be one, Father, just as you are in me and I am in you. May they also be in us so that the world may believe that you have sent me. I have given them the glory that you gave me, that they may be one as we are one— I in them and you in me—so that they may be brought to complete unity. Then the world will know that you sent me and have loved them even as you have loved me.”

For His Kingdom and Glory!

Pastor Chris

On behalf of the Pastors and Elders