

October 14, 2020



Church Family,

On behalf of Session, I am pleased to announce that this coming Sunday, October 18th, 2020, we will continue to progress into our next phase of our COVID-19 response which involves three significant additions:

First, we will resume **servicing communion indoors** monthly during the worship service. We are targeting October 25th, 2020 as our first Sunday resuming communion indoors during worship and plan to return to our previous schedule of the third Thursday of any given month going forward.

Second, we will resume **nursery and Children's Worship indoors**. Both nursery rooms will be utilized, and these programs will be available to children ages 1 through 6 years old.

Third, we want to emphasize that **a number of our ministries have resumed meeting**. We have multiple studies meeting at the church throughout the week as well as a return of our Student Fellowship meetings on Sunday nights.

With the lower case counts of our area we believe it is safe for the majority of our families to return to worship in-person at this time. We strongly encourage those who are healthy and not in a particular at-risk category to return to their involvement in these ministries and to corporate worship in-person.

You will note that we will still humbly request that congregation members wear a mask when attending our worship services in-person. At this time, we believe it is still best to wear a mask and observe social distancing as much as we can in order to prevent the spread of this virus. We will regularly assess possible adjustments to our face-mask policy and other policies as currently outlined below.

We are referring to this new phase we are entering as the **Green Phase**, though we acknowledge that this does not mean that we are returning completely back to normal. We know it has been a difficult year, yet our hope in Christ assures us that it will not always be this way. Our goal in the meantime is to do our best to mitigate the

risk of spreading the Coronavirus while still facilitating the essential need for corporate worship among God's people.

Thank you for joining us in that effort and for patiently following us as we have sought to lead our church through this difficult season that we never could have imagined experiencing together. If you have any questions or concerns about our Green Phase listed below, please email myself at jason@murrysvillechurch.com.

Grace to you all,

Pastor Jason

Green Phase

- Due to the mandatory mask order in PA, the MCC Session has decided to continue humbly requiring that masks be worn the entire duration of the church service, in the sanctuary and gathering space, in compliance with the mandate and for the good of our neighbors. *Those who have a medical exception are not required to wear a mask during the service.
- We will offer one **Worship Service at 10:30 am** on Sunday Mornings with a limited capacity of 106 persons per the sanctuary and 25 in the gathering space, for a total of 131 congregation members each week. These reductions in the maximum room capacity allow distance between households seated during the service. The **Gathering Space** will be an overflow space once the sanctuary is filled and is a great option for young families in particular as a way to transition back into the rhythms of corporate worship after being away for some time.
- The Session, Deaconate, and Staff will routinely assess the need to add additional worship services should more space and seating be required to meet the demand.
- The 10:30 am Worship Service will be **live streamed** on Facebook, YouTube, and our website
- **Communion** will be served in-person once per month during the Green Phase.
- At this time, there will not be Sunday School offered **in-person** in the church building. If you are interested in helping teach a Sunday School class to

children in the future, please contact our Children's Worship Coordinator, Val Kovalcik, at val@murrysvillechurch.com.

- Parents, please check our Facebook Connect group for weekly Sunday School curriculum you can go through together with your children from home. If you are not on Facebook and would like access to the curriculum please email our Children's Worship Coordinator, Val Kovalcik.
- **Nursery and Children's Worship** will be offered for children ages 1 through 6 during the green phase. If you are interested in helping serve in the nursery or children's worship ministry, please email our Nursery Coordinator Sarah Evans at sarah@murrysvillechurch.com, or our Children's Worship Coordinator, Val Kovalcik, at val@murrysvillechurch.com.
- Kid's Worship Packets will be provided for children who remain seated in the sanctuary or gathering space during the service.
- A number of our ministries have resumed gathering including Men's Fellowship, Women's Fellowship, and Student Fellowship for bible study and community engagement.