



To the wonderful people of New Life Church,

Like any other group the size of our church, we have people who have a variety of concerns and perspectives on covid measures. Some of you are not comfortable being in a setting where others are not masked, and some of you are not comfortable having to wear a mask for an extended period of time. The one thing we ALL agree on is that we LOVE Jesus and we LOVE one another! I have to say that I've been so proud of the way this church and our leadership team have dealt with this complex issue. While there is no shortage of division and dissension in our society, those of you who have shared your thoughts with the staff and CMT have done so in a gracious way, understanding that these are not easy waters for our church to navigate, and for that I THANK YOU!

From the beginning we have been diligent to abide by the governmental regulations in all our ministry. The recent elevated restrictions require that people over the age of 4 must wear masks in the church except when seated in a physically distanced way. In a spirit of loving concern for our church family the CMT has, and I think very wisely, sought to make our gatherings as safe and accessible to as many people as possible by addressing the various concerns. For this reason, beginning Sunday, October 18, the CMT has decided to take the following measures during this time of elevated restrictions:

- During our 9:00am service masks must be worn for the entirety of the service, including when people are seated (for ages 5 & up). During the 10:45am service people will be required to wear masks while singing and while standing but will be permitted to remove masks when sitting in a physically distanced way (during announcements, sermon, etc.). I really believe the CMT has landed at a great place where everybody can feel safe and comfortable to be at church.
- Ushers will record your attendance when you enter the sanctuary to ensure that we have a completely accurate guest list should contact tracing ever be necessary. They will also help you find a seat that are at least 6 feet (3 chairs) from other households.
- To minimize crowdedness in the foyer you will be encouraged to find your seat as soon as possible when entering the church, and to leave the building within 15 minutes after the end of the service to allow a cleaning team time and space to wipe down surfaces.
- We will be closing the café until further notice. Maybe Tracey will make deliveries!
- Masks will continue to be required for all our mid-week programs except when people are seated in a physically distanced way.

If you have any questions please call the church office. Let's continue to pray that God protects our church and communities from this virus, that we act wisely in our actions and graciously in our words towards others, and that we be steadfast in faithfulness through this difficult season.

Together in Christ,

Pastor Rusty