

Christ's Church Marion County

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May 26, 2020

Greetings Christ's Church!

The coronavirus has changed many things. Some things will remain the same - the unchanging Truth of the Gospel of Jesus. But much will be different and will change because of what we are experiencing and learning as a result of this pandemic.


On Tuesday, May 19, 2020, the Elders of Christ's Church of Marion County met to discuss what is being considered the "Relaunch of CCOMC". The decisions made were not made without prayerful consideration as well as recommendations from our state and federal government, participation in webinars, and conversations with leaders of other religious organizations throughout the area.

There have been many questions presented to the leadership over the last few weeks, but the most frequently asked question, as we know many of you are ready (or should we say excited) is "**When will we be able to meet together again?**". The answer is Sunday, June 7.

Taking into consideration the recommendation of the CDC, the Worship Center has been reconfigured to not exceed 50% of our capacity and to provide the recommended social distancing. It is our feeling that we are going above the requirements set forth by the State of Florida. If we find that our seating capacity is not sufficient to accommodate all those attending the service, we will discuss the possibility of adding a second service.

Our goal is to make everyone have a great worship experience and we do not want anyone to feel uncomfortable.

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Sunday School 9:30 am  Sunday Worship Service 10:30 am

Things will be different when we return to worship the Lord inside the building. Here are some of the changes you will need to be aware of:

- † **The worship service will begin at 9:15 am.** You will be asked to remain in your car until 9:05 am.
- † At 9:05 am, you may begin lining up along the sidewalks (maintaining the recommended social distancing space of six feet (6')). We will have volunteers who will take your temperature and anyone with a temperature of 100 degrees F or higher will be asked to return home and/or seek medical attention. You will not be allowed to enter the building.
- † Please utilize only the front door that is open to enter the building. No entrance or exit (except in the case of an emergency) will be allowed through any side or rear exit doors.
- † You will not be required to wear a mask and/or gloves; however, please feel free to if it increases your level of comfort. Be aware that we will not be providing masks and we have a limited supply of gloves that will be used by the volunteers during the service.
- † Once you have been cleared, you will be asked to quickly move into the Worship Center. An Usher/Deacon will be there to assist you in locating appropriate seating. The Worship Center seating has been reconfigured to facilitate social distancing while allowing family members to be seated together.
- † All pens and offering envelopes have been removed from the chairs.
- † In your chair you will find sermon notes and any other information pertinent to the day's service. These items will have been previously handled only by one person who was gloved during the preparation and placement.
- † The restrooms will be open to only one person at a time and will be sanitized immediately following use. Only the handicap stall in each restroom will be utilized.
- † For the safety of all those involved, no Valet Parking will be offered for the foreseeable future.
- † We ask that you be respectful of others and restrain from hugging and unnecessarily touching items.
- † There will be no programming for children. All children will be asked to remain in the Worship Center for the entire service with their parents/grandparents/ guardian. Children will not be allowed in the restrooms without being accompanied by a responsible adult.
- † At this time, we will not be offering any Sunday School classes. As restrictions are lifted, we will continue to discuss options for relaunching classes.
- † At the present time there will be no choir or choir rehearsals.

Other questions you might have:

- **How can I continue to participate in Communion?** Pastor David will dismiss those in attendance in small groups. Communion will be offered in the foyer as you exit the building and those desiring to partake will be offered a specially prepared cup with a wafer and juice.
- **If someone needs prayer, would like to be baptized, or would like to place their membership with CCOMC will they be able to?** Yes. At the conclusion of the service Pastor David will ask anyone desiring prayer or to make a decision to remain seated. At that time, one of the Elders will speak with the person and assist them following the service.
- **Will those who desire to remain home still be able to view online messages?** Yes, however, rather than being current, the video message on YouTube and the radio message will be delayed by one week. If you wish to listen to an audio only version of the weekly message, that will be available on the church's website by 2:00 pm Sunday afternoon.
- **Can I volunteer to assist on Sunday morning?** Yes, there will be many opportunities for service. If you are interested, please contact the church office.
- **I am involved in other ministries that meet on the campus of CCOMC. When will we be able to return?** Each ministry will be handled on a case by case basis. New guidelines are being established for cleaning and sanitizing the buildings following the use of all groups.
- **I have read all the information received in the mail and in other various areas, but I still have questions and concerns. Who should I contact?** If you still have questions, you are encouraged to contact one of the Pastors or Elders.

There are a few special dates we would like to make you aware of:

- **June 7** will be "Pack the Pantry/Pack the Closet/Pack the Nursery". You may bring items used to restock our church pantry, provide clothing items to Helping Hands Ministry, provide baby items to the Women's Pregnancy Center.
- **June 14** will be a congregational vote to vote on the new Elder (Russ Gemberling) and Deacons (Johnny Binkley, Greg Boynak, John Carpenter, Perry Connell, Ron Garcia, Giulio Petta, and Roger Rash). There will be no Friendship Fellowship Luncheon this quarter.
- **June 21** (Father's Day) will include the ordination of our new Elder and Deacons.

- **June 28** - In lieu of the annual "Baby Bottles", we will provide you with a special envelope to donate to the Women's Pregnancy Center.

Prior to returning to the building for our corporate worship services, all Elders, Deacons, and those assisting in the Worship Service will complete a simulation training session.

It is our objective to maintain communication with all those who are members of or attend Christ's Church of Marion County. During the last few weeks we have communicated with you via OneCall phone announcements, email, Facebook, and through our website. We will continue to communicate utilizing these mediums. If you have not been receiving this communication, and would like to be included, please contact the church office during regular office hours or via email (info@ccomc.org).

Again, we look forward to seeing you soon.

Elders of Christ's Church of Marion County