

Dear Church family, I pray this note finds you well.

First off, thank you to all who were able to fill out the questionnaire as we've sought out your voice on church opening, restrictions, and what that could/would/should look like. It's clear that we long to see each other and continue to worship with one another in the same space. So with that being said, and with many questions being sent to us concerning our "opening" – where are we?

As a Council it was decided that it would be best to hold off a few more weeks and continue to worship via our live broadcast. This was a hard decision to come to, with many different factors and opinions and thoughts, but once more the over-arching response we heard from people, and our own thoughts, was for the care and concern of each other. On top of that conversation there was also a discussion of what an opening looks like when the pastor would be gone and would that be wise (I will be on vacation from July 5th after church until July 27th)? These factors, along with many others, brought the Council to conclusion that we would hope to open for in-service worship come August 2nd. So what does this mean?

This means we will continue to do our live broadcast of the service and will encourage you all to continue to join us in worship. It means there are 3 different pastors who are lined up to bring you the Word as we focus on different missional ministries and their work in the Kingdom of God. It means we will continue to hope that COVID-19 gets more understood and our hands wrapped around it so that when we DO gather back together we do so with the utmost safety and care for one another. It means that any of us who are currently unwell will HOPEFULLY be at the point where they are well and healthy and can join us in person.

We know that this is not ideal but I'm reminded once more, through hearing from you and your support of one another, that the church is bigger than her walls. That worship is more than what happens here on Sunday morning. That time and space will not hold back the word of God going forth. That you all are reaching out, supporting, zooming, and continuing to be the Bride that is not held back by disease or pandemic. That church "life" is beautiful, deep, and complex the Spirit of God moves in new and exciting ways. So we'll keep trucking along, we'll keep sharing the love of God and breathing in his Spirit in our homes, out in the streets, and via the internet while we long to see each other face-to-face come Aug 2nd.

Thank you again for your patience through all of this.

In Him,

P Kelly