



August 14, 2020

Church Family,

The Homecoming Task Force continues to meet via Zoom on a regular basis to discuss the trends in hospitalizations and consider when we might meet for in-person worship.

The original plan was to wait until we observed a 14 day decrease in the 7-day rolling average of number of people in the hospital. Our team is following the data in the Austin Metropolitan Statistical Area. That guiding metric was set in place before the spike of cases in July. While our area has now met that metric, we feel the cases are still too high and that it is too soon to plan a date for return.

We are pleased to announce, though, that we will be hosting an opportunity for an in-person outdoor traditional worship service at 8:30am on September 6. This will take place at the pavilion. Worshippers are invited to bring their own lawn chairs and space themselves out 6+ feet apart or stay in cars. We will broadcast through speakers as well as radio transmission. Communion will be served in individual packets.

The 8:30am traditional outdoor service will be live streamed. We will also live stream the 11am contemporary service to Facebook in its usual manner. Due to heat, the 11am service will not be held outdoors. That will be an online-only service. Worshippers are welcome to worship online for either service, and we especially encourage those who are considered vulnerable to do so.

There will be an additional Drive-In communion opportunity at 9:45am for those who are attending the 11am service online or those who attended the live stream of the 8:30am worship from home. This will be done like we did it on August 2: they will drive up, receive their communion packet, park, and listen to the communion liturgy through the radio.

Despite the frustration of waiting, we feel a grave responsibility to make decisions that best serve you - our beloved congregation - and our entire community. Thank you for continuing to love each other by commenting and chatting online, calling each other, meeting in Zoom small groups, giving to those in need and to the ministries of your church. We are praying for your physical health, mental wellness, and spiritual relationship with Jesus.

*~The Homecoming Team*