



In Between The Weekends

Staying Connected

May 20, 2020

**And John Wesley said if we want to follow Jesus—
if you want to love God and love your neighbor—
then live by these three simple rules:**

Do no harm

Do good

Stay in love with God

We are in an unprecedented time and we are called to be God's witness in the world. Many places that are reopening are responding to the economic crisis. As United Methodists we are responding to a health issue and have determined that do no harm is the right decision. Therefore we will work together to create/provide a safe sanctuary where we can come together to worship God safely. That means some changes. What follows is the best information I have today.

- ✚ We will wear face masks – bring your own; we will have some;
- ✚ We will observe 6 foot social distancing, every other pew will be blocked off and families may sit together, others will stay 6 feet apart;
- ✚ You will have your temperature taken before entering the sanctuary;
- ✚ We will eliminate greeting time (no hugs, fist bumps, high fives and handshakes) and children's time;
- ✚ We will take attendance in order to facilitate contact tracing in case someone attends church services and later becomes sick with COVID-19.;
- ✚ To reduce frequently touched items we will not use hymnals or bulletins. Instead, needed information will be on the screens;
- ✚ Our tithes and offerings will be collected in baskets located in the narthex;
- ✚ At this time there is no plan to have children's church or a nursery;

- ✚ There will be specific entrances and exits into the building to eliminate crowds;
- ✚ If you are sick, please stay home;
- ✚ Respect your own health limitations. It is all right to take care of yourself by staying home;
- ✚ We will continue to live stream every week.

Reopening will be done in phases. Movement from one phase to the next will be determined by the number of new cases of COVID 19. We will use the <https://bamatracker.com/> to keep track of our county numbers. How long will this last? I wish I knew. But I do believe that God will use this crisis to bring all things and all people together for good.

Next Steps in reopening Process:

May 24 Carol will live stream from the sanctuary. This is a test of live streaming possibilities.

May 31 Carol will be joined by Troy and the Praise Team. This will be a test of our ability to lead worship while social distancing.

There will not be an in person congregation at these two Sundays, only worship leaders and technicians.

June 7: Volunteers needed: We are looking for 25 volunteers to attend the first reopening service on June 7 at 10:00. Given the regulations that are in place, we will need your feedback on your worship experience. We will use your information to make changes before the following Sunday. Remember if there is an increase in new COVID 19 cases we will have to return to live streaming only.

To reserve your place call 256-247-3307. Remember we are limited to just 25 people.

Sunday sermon: The Certainty of Uncertainty Luke 24:13-16, 28-31