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THE BEACON



**Summer Events
Cancellations
due to COVID19**

Because of the uncertainty of the virus and the potential for unnecessary spread of it, we will be canceling all youth and children's activities for the month of June.

So it is with a very sad heart that we will not have two of our favorite Kids activities this year.



There will be **NO** VBS this Summer.

And **NO** CentriKid Camp

this year.

But we do have **HOPE** of something for July!



We do have some tentative plans to restart some "normal" activities this Summer...



On Campus Sunday School will resume on June 7 or later based on the progression of the virus in late May. More information will be sent in late May for plans and guidelines for those classes who feel comfortable meeting together.



M-Fuge has moved to July! The Youth are tentatively scheduled to go to M-Fuge in Jackson, Mississippi on July 5-10.



Tentative KIDS Event in July! We will continue to evaluate the safety of having some kind of 3-Night event in late July to take the place of VBS.



A note from the pastor

Dear Church Family,

We are surely living in unprecedented days. Who among us has ever lived through a pandemic? Who among us has ever had our freedom of movement limited due to a broad health issue in our nation? When I enrolled in seminary I remember looking over the course offerings (both required and electives) and never saw a course entitled “How to Lead a Church Through Pan-

demics.” I suspect if the class had been offered I probably wouldn’t have chosen to take it. Yet here we are living in unprecedented times trying to guide our fellowship through exactly such circumstances.

As this pandemic arose we followed the request of our state and national governments to stop having “in-Person” services while this pandemic was expanding exponentially. Due to our actions we have not held a public service for six weeks. Near the end of April our governor issued guidance on how to begin reopening our state and he included guidance for houses of worship. Your church staff has taken these guidelines to heart. As a result of them we invited our active, serving deacons and their families to join our worship leadership team this past Sunday (5/3) for our Digital Service and to share with them our plan to reopen based on the guidelines issued by the state. Their input has been very important to our plan to move forward. I will address three primary areas in the following paragraphs.

Worship — In order to accommodate both potential attenders, and the need to provide safer space for “at risk” individuals, we will have THREE worship opportunities for the next two weekends. **At 9:00am** Sunday, 5/10 and Sunday, 5/17 we will offer an “at risk” service for those over 65 and those who have compromised immune systems. The facility will be disinfected in advance of this service, seating will be limited and spaced appropriately. There will also be adjustments in how the service is carried out such as no “meet and greet” time, we will not pass the offering plate, we will dismiss the service by rows to minimize the potential for contact, and the worship center will be disinfected afterwards in preparation for the next service. **At 11:00am** Sunday, 5/10 and Sunday, 5/17 we will offer a general service for all other persons who choose to attend with the same adjustments to the service as listed above. Additionally we will continue to offer **our Digital Campus** with a live broadcast at 11:00am on Facebook Live. We anticipate continuing this service indefinitely as we are seeing people from other areas tune-in to our fellowship. Please understand we fully understand there are individuals who are uncomfortable returning to spaces with many people in the short term. We want to give you the space and grace to choose the worship venue best for you. We believe this approach will accomplish this.

Sunday School/Small Groups — The very nature of Sunday school is a small setting with individuals close to one another in fellowship and study of God’s word, therefore we are delaying the resumption of such ministry on campus **until at least June 7**. This will allow another month of time to pass and hopefully the effects of this pandemic will subside by then. We will update the congregation about a week in advance of this date if we need to delay resumption of small groups. Nursery will follow this same schedule to provide safety for our workers and children.

Giving — As a fellowship you have been very faithful in giving to the Lord through your church over the past six weeks. Please continue to do so by either giving on-line at our website, dropping off your offerings at the church office Monday-Thursday, or having your bank issue direct payment.

We are looking forward to what God is going to do through our fellowship in the days ahead.

Yours for the Kingdom,



Things to consider if you join us for services this Sunday....

- Please don’t congregate in the vestibule before or after the service so we can maintain proper “social distancing” practices.
- Please don’t arrive more than 15 minutes early to the 11 o’clock service to give the early service time to dismiss and leave the campus.