

Greetings Schoenbrunn Family,

After a period of prayerful discernment and planning our joint board has decided to return to in-person worship on Sunday June 21st.

We want to share with you some guidelines that will be imperative to follow for when we return to in-person worship. If these guidelines cannot be adhered to or health recommendations change, we may be forced to suspend in-person worship once again. We feel by utilizing a strict cleaning regiment and maintaining proper social distancing we can safely return to worship. We realize there are many changes, but these are sacrifices we will all need to make if we want to worship again in- person.

1. **All worship attenders are required to wear a mask from the time you enter the church facilities to when you leave.** We will have some available for those who do not have one. Since, wearing a mask protects those around us, this is something we must do out of love for our church family and neighbors. If you do not feel comfortable wearing a mask, please join us for worship via our livestream or recording.
2. We will worship predominately in the fellowship hall and occasionally outside when the weather permits. Social distancing protocols will remain intact during worship. There is no hugging or touching. Maintain 6 feet of distance between you and others at all times. We will have a seating usher to help you and your family find a spot. We will need to maximize spacing, so please don't be offended if you are asked to sit somewhere other than your normal spot. We will also ask you and your family to RSVP to worship services so we can adequately space out chairs. No more than 50 people will be permitted in the building.

3. There will be no hymnals, Bibles, or bulletins made available to the congregation. We will ask you to follow along with the order of worship being projected on the screen. You may also use your phones as a resource. No offering plate will be passed. We will have a plate in back made available for those of you that prefer in-person giving.
4. At this time there will be no congregational singing, because unfortunately singing in a public setting is a high-risk way to contract the virus. We will still have music and many different creative ways for us to listen to God's word through song.
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=LNzGkflAkZQ&t=108s>
5. Children's Chat will be done with children remaining seated with their families. Parents we ask that you assist your children in following the social distancing protocols. If you feel your child would struggle to understand social distancing protocols, we would encourage you to join us for worship from the comfort of your own home. We understand how challenging this can be for kids!
6. Pastor Ben will dismiss families individually and spaced out at the end of church to avoid congested departure and to maintain proper social distancing. Please do not linger after the service. Our cleaning crew will need to deep clean after worship.
7. We will have one restroom open for worship. We encourage you to only use it for emergencies.
8. If you begin to feel symptoms of any kind during this time, regardless of severity, please stay home until you are well enough to return; don't risk it! We would even encourage you to take your temperature Sunday morning before joining us for worship.

We realize that many of you may be vulnerable to COVID-19 and will not feel comfortable returning to worship for quite some time. That is perfectly fine! This is not a test

of your faith and we will not be disappointed if you are not worshipping with us. We will be livestreaming our services on Facebook and you will be able to see recorded services on our website. You are a valued member of our church even if you can only be spiritually present for worship at this time.

I know some of these changes will be difficult for us to adjust to. Yet, we must always remember these changes are temporary and God's presence is permanent. 1 Corinthians 15:58 said, "Therefore, my beloved brothers, be steadfast, immovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, knowing that in the Lord your labor is not in vain."

If you have any questions or concerns please feel free to reach out to me or the joint board.

Blessings,

Pastor Ben

SCMC Joint Board