

February 10, 2021

Hello MPC Family-

“I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me.” -Philippians 4:13

Based on the ruling by the California Supreme Court as well as a decrease in the number of COVID-19 cases in Ventura County, the Session of MPC is excited to once again offer our community an indoor in person worship experience. If you plan to join us for in-person worship, please read the information below as it should address any questions you might have. If you have any additional questions or need information clarified, please don't hesitate to reach Kami Fair as she is well versed in all of our reopening procedures. If you are not yet ready to return to the campus for worship, we will continue to provide a livestreamed service as we have over the last year.

To reduce the inherent risks related to the COVID virus, the Session has decided to implement the following measures for in person worship:

Preliminary Precautions:

High risk individuals are strongly encouraged to continue to worship from home. PLEASE! If you are not feeling well (cough, fever, or a sore throat), stay home!

Worship attendees are required to wear a face mask or shield that covers both your nose and mouth. A limited supply of disposable masks will be available. These should be worn from the time you exit your car until you are back in your car following the service.

Because of current health care guidelines, we can welcome 85 worshippers into the sanctuary. We will not offer programming for children or youth yet. Children and youth are welcome to attend worship and sit with their families. If you are planning to attend worship, you will need to pre-register via www.MPCLife.org or please call the office and let Kami Fair (x103) know how many will be attending. Restrooms will be open with one person allowed at a time in order to maintain social-distancing.

Before Entering the Sanctuary:

Doors will open 10 minutes before the beginning of service for the check-in process (line up 6 feet apart please). We will check our list of reservations to see if you registered for the service. If you are on the list, you will continue through the check in process. If you are not, you are welcome to wait until 9:10 am, and if there are people who do not show for worship, we will be able to seat you.

First Impression Team (FIT) members will have you review a series of questions about your current state of health. ~~FIT members will take your temperature. If you have an elevated temperature, you and your family will be advised to not enter the worship space and head home instead.~~

Hand sanitizer will be available to sanitize your hands before entering.

During Worship:

Pews will be marked to enforce 6 feet of social distancing between family units. First Impressions Team Member will escort you to your seat.

Offering plates will be available as you exit the sanctuary to place your gifts when you leave. Offerings will continue to be collected via online giving at www.MPCLife.org/donate, mail and drop off at the church office.

There will be no official “time of welcoming one another.” When greeting others before or after the service, please give “air high fives”, “air hugs” or other friendly acknowledgment rather than a hug or a handshake.

Hymnals, pew bibles, pencils, and offering envelopes have been removed and paper worship bulletins will not be provided in person. Our digital bulletin will be emailed out on Saturday afternoon. You are encouraged to bring your own Bible to service.

For now, there will be no singing by the congregation. Words will be projected on the screen. We encourage you to spend time meditating on the lyrics. Maybe hum along. We realize this will be one of the most difficult changes; however, experts have strongly cautioned against group singing.

On Communion Sundays, you will receive a “communion kit” as you enter the sanctuary. Gluten Free elements will also be available.

After Worship:

We will dismiss people by pews. Please leave the building promptly by the side doors and do not mingle in the sanctuary or hallway.

For the time being, there will be no fellowship or coffee hour. You may visit with others outside the church building if you wish, but please move away from the door to allow others to exit.

Remember to keep your mask on and social distance from others.

Other Information:

Our campus and office remain closed during the week. All ministries of the church and partner organizations will have their own reopening procedures and timelines.

Please note that, at its discretion, the Session may revise or adjust these policies and procedures as public health guidance shifts.

Final Thoughts:

Thank you so much for your prayers, grace, patience and flexibility as we attempt to navigate our way through these trying times. I know we are all experiencing some level of COVID-Fatigue. If you need someone to talk to or need prayer, please don't hesitate to contact me. I want to help if I can.

Peace

Keenan Barber