



Dear Family at Christ Community,

I wanted to give you an update on several things in the life of our church to help keep us all in the loop on some areas of importance.

**Meeting Location:**

We continue to be in regular communication with the leadership of Kennesaw's Community Center. They continue to be protective and supportive of our ability to meet there once the Governor issues an increase in the number of people who can gather for a public event. Given that the limit continues to be 50, we will continue to meet at RTS Atlanta for November and most likely December. While this is not a long term solution for us for weekly worship, we remain thankful for the opportunity afforded to us to gather there for worship.

**Communion:**

After considering a variety of ways to celebrate the Lord's Table that honor the Scriptural call to do so in community and checking with those that would be most at risk in a public gathering, the current plan is to serve communion at both services on Sunday, 12/13, and Sunday, 12/20. Robby will send out a sign up link for Sunday, 12/13, for those whose last names begin with A-J on the Wednesday prior. Last name letters starting with K-Z will receive an email the following week to sign up for Sunday, 12/20. For each of these Sundays, any remaining available slots will be sent out on the Saturday prior. The goal is to make sure that everyone has the opportunity to attend a communion service should you feel comfortable doing so in person. We will use the self contained wafer and juice option to minimize contact with the elements and will distribute the elements with minimal contact. We will look to offer communion again in January in case you miss the opportunities in December.

**Finances:**

Our Mercy Fund is well funded at present, so thank you for your generosity toward those in need! We've been able to help several folks significantly over the last few months. Faith Promise, on the other hand, has approximately a \$4,000 deficit for September-October. It is not unusual for us to be a bit behind at the start of the Faith Promise year, however, we don't want to fall too far behind given the critical need to maintain the ongoing support that we've pledged for each of the missionaries, ministries, campus ministries, and church plants. In addition, our General Fund is also running a bit of a deficit after September-October. Again, this is not unusual. The Lord graciously provided for us last year (and in previous years) so we have the capacity to weather a period of financial struggle, however, we would rather have that previous surplus available for the purpose of a permanent facility should the Lord provide an opportunity. Thank you for how generous you all have been historically and will continue to be for the glory of the Lord!

**Upcoming Schedule:**

Chris Blackman will conclude our series on Proverbs 1-9 this Sunday. Brian and Mandy Stock will share on what the Lord is doing in and through their missionary calling and Brian will preach on Sunday, 11/15. Robby and Chris will preach Advent from Matthew 1-2 beginning Sunday, 11/22, through the month of December. These opportunities serve to help equip Robby and Chris in their

callings to pastoral ministry in ways that preaching one off sermons periodically can't do. It is critical that they be able to preach the story of Jesus in its various parts. This also serves to encourage you the congregation in the various voices that the Lord has entrusted to us to encourage and edify for our good and God's glory. While not preparing for weekly sermons, I will continue preparing for our sermon series in Romans beginning after Easter 2021. Pray for and encourage Chris and Robby as they have the humbling opportunity to serve you with the Word of God. Pray for me as I seek the Lord's face during my upcoming prayer retreat starting Friday, pursue refreshment on my pastoral cohort retreat the week following, and celebrate 21 years of marriage with Susan over the Thanksgiving holidays in the mountains of North Georgia and North Carolina. This means that I will be available in limited fashion for the rest of November. Please reach out to the staff or your shepherding elder or deacon if you have an immediate need.

I am thankful to serve you as one of Christ's under-shepherds! Let me leave you with a quote from Martin Luther concerning prayer in his *Commentary on Romans* that seems particularly applicable that I will be meditating on during my prayer retreat and beyond:

"So we read in II Corinthians 9:8: "God is able to make all grace abound toward you." He therefore is rich when He gives; we are poor when we pray. He is mighty when He grants us our petitions; we are timid and weak when we ask. We do not pray for as much as He can and will give, for we do not pray according to His ability, but far short of His ability, according to our weakness. But He can give only according to His might; therefore He always gives more than we ask for."

With Love in Christ,  
Cameron