

Dear FBC Family,

As you know, over the last few months we have had two services on Sunday morning. We have had two services out of necessity and caution. We did this for your health and safety, and out of respect and honor of our governing authorities.

Even though our two services have functioned the same, in essence we have had two gathered assemblies. Although we had these two services out of necessity and caution, we believe that the New Testament teaches that a local church is one gathered assembly. It has been our desire to get back to one gathered assembly as quickly and prudently as possible. We believe that we can now gather as one assembly, safely and effectively, by gathering in the gym.

Starting September 6, we will return to one gathering. The service will begin at the normal time it did in the past, 9:30am. At this point, other Sunday ministries like Connect and nursery will not be available. We want to inform you about several details and procedures.

- 1.) We ask that everyone enter and exit through the nursery doors (door #2). We ask that you not enter or exit the gym doors. As you come through the nursery doors a welcome table will be set up, and the giving box will be placed on a table as you enter into the gym.
- 2.) Parents with young children are free to sit wherever they wish, but we are reserving certain spaces since nursery is not available. First, there will be a few rows of chairs available on the linoleum for families with young children. These rows are reserved for families with small children, so please leave this spot for them. Second, the kitchen and the window will be open, if parents wish to take their children there and still listen to the sermon.
- 3.) There will be a designated area with handicapped seats along the back gym wall that has the light switches.
- 4.) Over the last few months the order of service has been shorter, with less elements, because of time constraints. When we return to one service, our normal order of service will resume, which will include more singing, Scripture, and prayers. The Lord's Supper will continue to be administered in the same manner.
- 5.) We will not be projecting lyrics during the singing or congregational reading portions of the service. Instead, the song lyrics and congregational reading will be available in the Connection. The songs and readings will be in order of the service in the Connection. A paper copy will be available for you to pick up Sunday morning, and an electronic copy will be emailed out and posted on the church website.
- 6.) Restrooms in the gym will be available for use, but the other restrooms in the building will remain closed. We also ask that you not use the soda machine during the worship service.

7.) We ask that you continue to follow the other procedures we have laid out according to the recommendations of the CDC. These include social distancing, wearing masks in the building until you reach your seat, proper distancing between families when seated (2-3 chairs), and fellowshiping in the parking lot only.

We thank you for your patience and understanding as we have sought to meet as a church in a wise and safe manner. We believe that gathering together as one assembly is a priority for us as a church, and we believe we can do this in a safe and wise way in the gym. While things are certainly not exactly the way they used to be, we are thankful that we have a space to gather as one assembly and worship our Triune God. We hope that you will join us on September 6, but for those who still do not feel comfortable we certainly understand. If you have any questions about the details or procedures outlined above, please reach out to your elder.

The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all. 2 Corinthians 13:14

With love,

Your FBC Elders