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GRACE COVENANT CHURCH

PCA

I was glad when they said to me, “Let us go to the house of the Lord!” Psalm 122.1

Dear Saints of Grace,

I am so glad to announce that the session is ready to begin our next phase of gathered worship. Beginning this Sunday, May 31, Grace Covenant Church will resume gathered worship at our facilities at 10:30am. For the last few weeks we have had musicians and officers (and families) at church and believe we have a good plan in place with reasonable measure that minimize the health risk for those gathering for in-person worship.

Since the COVID-19 situation and government guidelines are ever changing, the plan below is **for now** and will continue to change as the situation allows in accordance with continuing Executive Orders of Georgia.

Everyone should follow their own conscience with regards to the decision of joining us for in-person worship. No one should attend if they have any apprehension or concerns about their safety. Attendees are welcome to wear masks, but we are not requiring them.

No one should attend if they are sick in any way (not just if you have a

No one should attend if they are at risk as defined by the continuing Executive Orders of Georgia (in place until June 12), which limits persons who are

1. 65 years of age or older;
2. live in a nursing home or long-term care facility, including inpatient hospice, assisted living communities, personal care homes, intermediate care homes, community living arrangements, and community integration homes;
3. have chronic lung disease;
4. have moderate to severe asthma;
5. have severe heart disease;
6. are immunocompromised, including but not limited to those who
 1. are being treated for cancer,
 2. smoke,
 3. have received bone marrow or organ transplants,
 4. have poorly controlled HIV or AIDS, and/or
 5. have for a prolonged period used corticosteroids or other immune-weakening medication(s);
7. have class III or severe obesity; or
8. have been diagnosed with diabetes or liver disease, or have chronic kidney disease undergoing dialysis.

Social distancing must be followed at all times (i.e. maintain at least 6 feet of space from other people who do not live in your home), both inside the building and outside in the parking lot.

In the parking lot, please attempt to keep one empty parking space between cars (unless you are parking next to someone that lives in your home). Please minimize socializing in the parking lot, but please practice social distancing if you do. Children are to remain close to their parents at all times and especially if there is a need to use the restroom; there will be no use of the playground equipment.

In the building, we are limiting access to the Portico, Narthex, and Sanctuary (the kitchen, nursery, and classrooms will be unavailable). We will have wipes and hand sanitizer available in the Narthex. We will not be offering coffee or food service, nor will the water fountains be available, however you are free to bring in your own beverage or water bottle. We will not be offering any Sunday

We are asking that the restrooms only be used in case of emergency; however if you need to use it, please do not have more than 2 adults in the restroom at the same time. Children must be accompanied by an adult at all times. Please remember to practice the hygiene prescribed by the CDC and the State of Georgia by washing your hands and then using a paper towel to open the bathroom door. There will be a trash can outside the bathroom doors for disposing those paper towels.

In the sanctuary, we will practice controlled seating. The rows have been adjusted to being 6 feet apart. Families need to sit together. Please keep three empty chairs between different families on same row. We will not be providing bulletins or hymnals, the entire service will be on the screens; however you are free to bring your own hymnal if you have one, but please take it with you when you leave. You are free to bring a hard copy of the liturgy that you have printed out at home. We will not be passing the collection plates, but you can drop off an offering in the designated containers by the sanctuary doors. We will not be administering any worship elements that are inappropriate for a partial-body service.

To help us plan we are asking everyone (whether you plan to attend or not) to [please RSVP using this link](#).

Volunteers are appreciated as we will need folks to help with doors and cleaning. If you are willing to help, please contact [JB Pritchett](#).

For those remaining home, we will continue to live stream through the [Grace Covenant Church YouTube channel](#).

Thank you for all your prayers. Please continue to pray for the officers as we continue to seek wisdom during these uncertain times! Please don't hesitate to reach out to one of the elders with any questions.

On behalf of the Session,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Pastor Dennis". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

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