



## MEMORIAL **BIBLE** CHURCH

MBCers,

On Tuesday evening, the elders of MBC met for prayer & discussion on the details of what future gatherings would look like for our church. Several decisions were made with careful consideration & we want to communicate those with you.

**1. There is no designated date for a return to gathering together on Sunday mornings in our building.**

With the circumstances evolving on a regular basis, we felt it would be wise to not set a specific date to return to regular worship services at this time. We all want to meet together as quickly as possible within the guidelines provided by the governing authorities in light of Romans 13:1-7 & 1 Peter 2:13-23. We will notify the church family as soon as we have a date to re-open the building for the purpose of congregational worship.

**2. The worship services will continue to be live-streamed online in the future.**

We understand that even once we open the building for congregational worship, there will be those that remain uncomfortable with gathering for a period of time. Therefore we are working to ensure that the online service remains a worshipful experience for those that participate in this way.

**3. Several summer events have been cancelled, with the encouragement to explore new options for the future.**

The elder board made the decision last evening to cancel VBS at MBC for the summer of 2020 & also to cancel MBC YOUTH Summer Camp for this summer. We recognize that these are major events for all those involved & enjoyed by the people of MBC greatly. However, these events are cancelled as of now & we are looking to see what possibilities may await these areas of ministry for events down the road.

**4. Our church is diverse, our prayer is for unity.**

Over a week ago, we had a survey distributed to the people of MBC & got a tremendous response. We received 294 results from the survey & it showed us a lot of information.

- 85% responded that they were watching the online service usually or always
- 85% responded that they were satisfied or very satisfied with the online services
- 80% responded that they prefer the online service to a drive-in/stay in your car service

The survey also revealed that the views on the current situation facing our families, our church, our state, & global issues varied greatly. We know that by making the decisions noted above, there will be a wide spectrum of feelings. Our prayer is that this moment would be used by the people of MBC to extend grace towards one another even as we differ in our understanding of the times.

*As Paul wrote in Romans 15:5-7, "May the God of endurance and encouragement grant you to live in such harmony with one another, in accord with Christ Jesus, that together you may with one voice glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ. Therefore welcome one another as Christ has welcomed you, for the glory of God."*

May we be a people that live in harmony with one another, enjoy a unity of purpose & demonstrate tangible care for one another...all for the glory of God. If you have any questions, concerns, or need clarification, you can reach us at: [MBCElderBoard@mbcyakima.com](mailto:MBCElderBoard@mbcyakima.com).

MBC Elder Board