

Seneca Church of Christ

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Dear Brothers and Sisters,

For the last several months we, as individuals and as a body of Christ, have faced unique challenges from the COVID-19 pandemic. As a result of this virus, our congregation has been forced to adapt in many ways such as temporarily halting in-person worship services and other gatherings. The elders of the Seneca church of Christ appreciate your prayers, encouragement, and patience as we have grappled with many difficult decisions. We love each of you and are so thankful for you as well as for God's guidance and care during this difficult period. We can't wait to once again be in your presence.

After much prayer and discussion, the elders are pleased to announce that on **June 7** we will begin to incrementally resume some of our physical gatherings. We will begin by once again holding an in-person worship service on Sunday mornings at 11:00 AM. To help us start worship services on time, we encourage everyone to arrive at the building least 10 minutes early.

All members of our congregation are invited to attend the in-person worship service. However, individuals who are 65 years of age and above, and those with an underlying at-risk health condition, face unique dangers from COVID-19. For individuals who have concerns about the impacts of COVID-19 on their health or are home-bound for other reasons, we plan to continue live streaming our Sunday morning worship services through the Seneca church of Christ Facebook page. We also have arranged to upgrade our live-streaming capabilities as soon as possible.

To promote everyone's safety, we will be doing many things differently before, during, and after our Sunday morning in-person worship services. For example, please expect changes such as the following.

- We will ask everyone to observe some widely recommended health and safety precautions designed to reduce the risk of spreading COVID-19. These precautions include wearing a mask and maintaining a minimum 6-foot distance from others at all times, including while entering and exiting the building.
- To minimize the area that must be sanitized between services, we will use only the auditorium section of the building. We will ask everyone to avoid entering sections of the building where classrooms, offices, and the fellowship hall are located.
- We will check your temperature before you enter the auditorium.
- Greeters and ushers will ensure the front doors are open and will direct you to your seat.

- We will use pre-filled communion cups and will have locations in the rear of the auditorium for you to deposit contributions.
- We will not have a printed bulletin. Rather, our lists of prayer requests, events, etc. will be presented in a slideshow and described during the announcements. These lists also will continue to be available on the church website.
- To maintain social distancing we will be seated in alternate rows and we will encourage families/households to sit on the same pew. We will ask parents / guardians to keep their children with them at all times.
- The church nursery will be closed until further notice. However, diaper-changing stations are available in the restrooms.
- We will ask everyone to reserve the cry room for its intended purpose which is attending to babies or small children who must be temporarily removed from the auditorium.
- We will dismiss services in a way to help regulate the number of people exiting at the same time.

The attached document provides more details about our procedures as well as health and safety information. The elders ask each of you to carefully read the attached document and to follow the precautions and procedures. We also ask you to please be patient with those who will be serving as greeters and ushers, and to do your best to follow their directions.

Please continue praying for God's care and for the impact of this coronavirus pandemic to diminish further. We also encourage you to continue participating in our live-streamed Wednesday evening Bible study. Finally, let's remember God's words as recorded by the prophet Jeremiah.

Jeremiah 17:7-8 (NASB)

⁷ "Blessed is the man who trusts in the LORD And whose trust is the LORD.

⁸ "For he will be like a tree planted by the water, That extends its roots by a stream And will not fear when the heat comes; But its leaves will be green, And it will not be anxious in a year of drought Nor cease to yield fruit.

In Him,

The Elders
Seneca church of Christ

Attachment