

Dear Church Family,

Our Regathering Team has been faithful throughout the pandemic to carefully consider how we have moved and will continue to move forward as a congregation in challenging times. Thankfully, we have been able to meet for some time now in a safe way, and as far as we are aware, no cases have come from our gathering together.

We would like to update you on protocols as we continue to meet together for worship each Sunday. Following the most recent guidelines from the CDC, persons who are fully vaccinated are not required to wear masks and are not required to practice physical distancing at FBCG beginning this Sunday, July 4th. We do want persons who feel more comfortable continuing to wear masks to do so, especially those who have not been vaccinated. Our continuing priority is that our church family remain healthy and safe. While we are removing taped-off areas of sanctuary pews, we ask that you continue to physically distance in the sanctuary as it is possible. We will make other changes gradually pertaining to hymnal use, communion, gathering of tithes and offerings, and distribution of bulletins. We will continue to live stream worship services on Sundays.

It is a blessing to be able to take these steps toward regathering fully on Sunday mornings at FBCG. We hope everyone will feel comfortable with these changes and that all will want to gather again on Sunday mornings this summer. Realize that some of us may want to avoid hugs and handshakes right now—let's thank God that we can be together and see each other in person. We look forward to the day that the spread of COVID-19 is unlikely, especially as vaccination numbers increase.

Our Regathering Team is aware of the COVID-19 variant that is affecting other countries and our own. We will keep a close eye on infection numbers and the trends within our own state and county and will make any protocol changes as they become necessary.

Please remember that Sunday worship will continue to be live streamed each week. You can access the services when you're out of town or if you don't yet feel comfortable participating in person.

Thanks to all of you for the ways you continue to be the church, even as we are moving through challenging times together!

FBCG Regathering Team