

July, 2021

***“A Call to Come and Worship”***

For the last year or more we have been forced to respond to our environments in ways we did not choose or would have chosen. That is slowly changing as the pandemic lessens and we are given greater choices on how we respond to our environment.

We have returned to worshipping in person with certain restrictions for over a year now. On some Sundays we have over 30 people coming to the church to worship in person. I understand that some people have not returned due to concern over COVID, and others over mask wearing. Masks are now optional, and no one stands at the door to “card” anyone. We continue social distancing protocols and spaced seating to provide a certain comfort level for attendees at this time.

We are told in scripture to continue to meet together as we worship God. It is vital to the life of the church to remain connected, to support and edify one another. Throughout scripture we are told to come together, to meet as one, to join together as the Body of Christ. If there is one thing we have learned during the pandemic it's that we need human contact and connection. Facebook, Twitter, YouTube and Instagram do not provide the connections we truly need. Our children realized that early on. Long distance learning was difficult. Not being with friends was detrimental to their emotional and psychological make up. That is why we are praying for help in starting up Sunday School and Youth Group as soon as possible. Please join me in this prayer.

Let me add that not worshipping together can be detrimental to our Spiritual health. Watching at home has provided an opportunity to hear the message, pray together and listen to the worship music – praise God. But it lacks the bond that community brings to our lives and which is necessary to being healthy Christians.

Please understand, some of us need to stay home for medical and health reasons, but don't let the habit of staying home on Sunday morning and watching on a screen keep you from returning to worship in person if you are able. We are the Body of Christ and we need all the parts of the body to function properly. We love you and miss you, please come back home.

In Christ's love,

Pastor Trip