

June 17, 2020

UCC of California Family,

“Praise God in his sanctuary; praise him in his mighty heavens...Let everything that has breath praise the Lord.” Psalm 150:1,6

It has been encouraging to start back up meeting in person on Sundays for worship, even though in a limited fashion. On June 16th, the state lifted many of its restrictions for churches to meet in person. The city of California is following the state as we enter into phase two.

Due to this, the Consistory has made adjustments to its in-person worship guidelines. First, Sunday School will begin meeting this Sunday, June 21st from 3rd grade up. Pre-K, kindergarten, 1st, and 2nd grades will not meet in person at this time. There will not be a Sunday School opening in the Friendship Hall. All classes will start at 9:45 in their classrooms. Teachers will be contacting their class members in the next few days.

The Sanctuary will open for all to worship. Every other pew will be taped off alternating from side to side. The Friendship Hall will only be used for overflow or seniors that can't use the elevator.

Tables will be removed that were blocking the stairs up to the sanctuary.

Hand sanitizer, masks, and wipes will still be available in different locations in the church.

Offering plates will remain in the back of the sanctuary.

Bulletins will be available in the back of the church for pick-up.

Sanctuary doors will be propped open before and after the worship service.

Everyone will still be asked to remain seated during the worship service.

The nursery is still unavailable and children need to stay in the pews for Children's Time.

The Consistory is still discussing ways to use the elevator on Sundays that are safe for everyone involved.

I think that is it for now. Thanks to everyone for their patience. The Consistory has spent a lot of time evaluating and developing guidelines that are safe for everyone. It has not been easy. I ask that everyone be gracious and understanding during this very difficult time.

I look forward to seeing everyone this Sunday. We will continue to live-stream the worship service each Sunday.

Yours in Christ,

Russ