

Greetings Westwood:

We appreciate the support of our congregation, as we have taken very seriously the health and wellness of our congregants. Your support, patience, and generosity have allowed us to ensure that we have kept health and wellness at the center of our decision making during this pandemic. While we are not out of the pandemic yet, we are hearing some encouraging data from our Governor and Chief Medical professionals in the State of Virginia that are guiding our timeline for reentry.

Although the positivity rate in Richmond and surrounding areas has decreased to 4.6% as of this week, we know the Black Community continues to be more vulnerable to the pandemic.

We currently remain in Phase Two of our reopening plan which allows for onsite gatherings of 10 or fewer for the purpose of church operations and maintenance.

The Trustees are meeting next week to determine where we are based on the latest CDC and the Governor's protocols.

The Trustees have purchased supplies including hand sanitizer, social distancing signage, and thermometers. They have also made media enhancements for streaming purposes and implemented contact tracing protocols upon entry into church facilities. They are currently assessing additional supplies needed, having the air filtration/HVAC system inspected as recommended by CDC, as well as implementing cleaning recommendations and preparing for training of church leaders.

The Trustees, in collaboration with the Reopening Workgroup, will continue to monitor local data from the Governor's reopening updates and CDC guidelines.

We are simultaneously working to ensure the health and safety of our members by gauging readiness for moving into Phase Three of our church reopening plan which includes on site church gatherings and events in the sanctuary.

Based on what we are currently experiencing with the pandemic in the State of Virginia, we anticipate a potential church reopening time frame during the end of the 3rd quarter and no later than the beginning of the 4th quarter.

We thank you for your patience and consideration as we proceed with caution to ensure we maintain the proper protocols for safety of all of our congregants during this pandemic.

May God continue to bless you and keep you!