

Hey Everyone,

As you have likely heard, Governor Walz is lifting the statewide mask mandate as of Friday, May 14. Our heart as Elders in following the mask mandate in Sunday services where hundreds are gathered at a time, was to love our community well, and to follow Romans 13.1-2 which commands us to: “be subject to the governing authorities, for there is no authority except that which God has established.”

Now that the mask mandate has been lifted, we also plan NOT TO REQUIRE MASKS in Sunday morning gatherings starting this Sunday, May 16<sup>th</sup>, 2021. With this change we (as Elders) want to make sure as a body you are aware of 2 elements that will go along with this:

1. There will still be masks available at every door, and if (for whatever reason) wearing a mask makes you feel more comfortable please continue to do so. We will also keep the back few rows spaced at 6ft apart so as to serve those of you who feel more comfortable social distancing.
2. Just because wearing a mask is not “required” doesn’t mean you shouldn’t. Our greatest guide in the days ahead will be “love of others” and “putting the needs of other brothers and sisters ahead of ourselves.” The way I (Pastor Micheal) plan on doing this is by keeping a mask around my neck or chin at all times on a Sunday morning. Personally, I’m more comfortable without one, BUT if I’m interacting with someone who is more comfortable having me put a mask on, I can easily slide it up as I interact with them. PLEASE CHURCH, continue to love others, and value them ahead of yourself as you enter the building with greater levels of freedom in the days ahead.

If you have any other questions about this (and I’m sure there will be), feel free to reach out to myself or the elders in the days ahead. Thank you for praying for us and being patient with us as we continue to navigate the always changing world we’re in.

In Christ,

Micheal (for the Elders)