

Dear Church 212° Family,

The past 11 months have been challenging for all of us. Your beloved church has either been meeting exclusively online OR the hybrid model: onsite (in the parking lot) and online. We are now officially a hybrid church because online services will continue even after we move back into the building.

BUT GREAT NEWS: with the Supreme Court ruling churches are permitted to return to indoor gatherings, Church 212° will return Sunday, February 21st to resume our regular 10:00am services. We will also open our nursery, all children's ministries & Jr. High's classes during Sunday services too. Youth Ministry will restart indoor services Wednesday, Feb. 17th at 6:30pm — for several months they have faithfully met in the city park up the hill behind our church building. Of course, we will continue wearing masks, social distancing and will resume our aggressive sanitization procedures to ensure the safety of our attendees inside the building. If you are feeling symptoms OR you are sick please stay at home and participate in the service online.

People have questioned, "Why did our church 'bend' to the government?" The answer, "we didn't bend to the world system BUT we will always lean into love." We support world missions in very troubled nations, we care for vulnerable people through The Mission, we feed the poor through CV food ministries & faithful church people who distribute it, AND we "restore people BY THE LOVE of God" through ALL the ministries of our church. Our decisions were driven by love for people at risk. A few years ago, a dear brother was passing away. His death was inevitable so he wanted to stop all medical intervention. He asked our Pastor if that was okay. Pastor Mike responded, "there is nothing in Scripture that says you would be wrong to decline medical help." Then he asked, "what will people say if they hear you gave me this counsel?" To which Pastor Mike responded, "I hope they say I am compassionate." We hope that is what you say about your Church 212o Team.

Read these verses: "Accept other believers who are weak in faith, and don't argue with them about what they think is right or wrong... Who are you to condemn someone else's servants?... Work for the things that make peace and help each other become stronger Christians... Do not eat meat or drink wine or do anything else if it would make your Christian brother fall into sin" (Read Romans 14:1-23 NLT). The Roman church was fighting over food OR what day to worship. The modern 2020/2021 church is arguing over whether to wear masks or no masks; meet inside or outside or online; to continue social distancing or "greet one another with a holy kiss?"

But we propose, "let's stop condemning each other. Decide instead to live in such a way that you will not cause another believer to stumble and fall" (Rom. 14:13). All of us have faith; some weak and some strong — we will always favor the weak because we know the strong will always make it through. BUT we will not ever have two classes: strong & weak, because we are laborers together in Christ.

PLEASE start praying now for our church members during these transitional times. If you are ready to meet inside the building we look forward to seeing you face-to-face Sunday, Feb. 21st. For those of you who still need time we'll see you online. If you are out of town because of travel, or live in other states or other countries, you can expect the same quality online programming during live services and on-demand.

Connect with us any time through our app, our YouTube channel, and on Facebook Live.

BTW: We welcome Pastor Mike back to work a month earlier than expected. He said, "I am not coming back in on a bulldozer; I'm just walking in." He also said, "our pastoral team and church leaders have done a fabulous job, I'm just ready to come back and serve the team." He has restarted Monday, Feb. 1st.

With love & prayers for our Church 212°,

The Pastoral Team