



Hello SCC family.

When we began our in-person worship gatherings back in May, before many churches made their decision to return, we put together a list of expectations and requests for our people to follow. We believe the expectations to be reasonable requests given our many congregants with varying health concerns and opinions. We are also informed of the differing opinions among our healthcare professionals and politicians. Please be aware that we have people who will not gather with us because we made certain recommendations and others who will not gather because we have not made enough.

We ask that you pray for unity even in the freedom of our varying views. We also ask that you please be patient with our leaders, your fellow congregants and the community as we navigate the political unrest and varying medical opinions.

Our Elders have agreed that at least through Monday August 10th we are requiring masks to be worn into the building, as you move about the corridors and when you leave through those same spaces. In cases of outside gatherings, the same standards apply. Namely, if proper social distancing cannot be maintained, a mask should be worn. We will continue to social distance in the auditorium and areas where Bible groups and ALL other ministry groups gather. While seated and social distanced we are not requiring masks be worn. This is the same plan we had from the start. The distinction is now it is a requirement not a recommendation. Additionally, we have decided to not have children's ministry classes during this time.

It is the position of the eldership that the governmental authorities are not asking us to do anything immoral in regard to mask wearing or 6-foot social distancing. Therefore, it is the official position of the eldership that we should submit to the governing authorities in this area as it pertains to the ministries of Spencer Christian Church. This is in agreement with the elder's interpretation of the scriptures found in Romans 13:1-8 and Titus 3:1-2.

We also, humbly, acknowledge, in agreement with the scriptures found in 1 Peter 2:13-24, that this may cause difficulty and hardship for people and perhaps even unjustifiably, but we ask our brothers and sisters in Christ to patiently endure it since Christ also suffered for us leaving us an example to follow in His footsteps. For when, and if, we suffer unjustifiably we find favor with our gracious God who, in the person of Jesus Christ, entered into our suffering world. May He be glorified through our words and actions during these difficult times.

Your thoughts and concerns on every issue, beloved brothers and sisters, are always in our prayers and we love you all dearly. May you see the love we have for you in our hearts as we humbly approach these difficult and polarizing topics and may the God of peace lead us in a spirit of unity to love one another sacrificially.

We want all who can to freely gather through in-person services, Bible groups and other ministries and gathering to do so. However, we are asking that you graciously worship or gather for other ministries with us online if you feel this is too restrictive or not restrictive enough.