



Dear Fellowship West Family,

I'm writing you today on behalf of our Elders and Staff leadership teams, to update you on our church's COVID-19 policies. It seems prudent to issue a communication update in response to local and State government updates to community health guidelines.

First, thank you for being so gracious over the past 15 months. In a season where it would have been easy for turmoil and dissension to encroach upon our unity and mission, the overall response of our faith community has been perseverance, grace, and understanding.

During the past year our leadership team, in partnership with an advisory team made up of physicians in our congregation, has strived to be thoughtful and consistent regarding health and safety guidelines. Our aim in issuing recommendations or establishing certain policies has been driven by love of neighbor, our testimony in the community, and civic responsibility. In response to the change in our community health conditions and expectations, we are updating our request of you, the church family.

Since regathering in late July, we've encouraged face-coverings where social distancing was not possible to protect one another from virus transmission. In light of vaccine availability and the percentage of folks who have reached immunity in our community, we no longer have any official request regarding the use of face-coverings. The use of a face covering is optional and up to each individual and/or family to discern what the best. This applies to all areas of ministry, including children and volunteers participating in Fellowship Kids.

Our Fellowship Kids team and medical advisory team do continue to strongly urge individuals and families to practice good hygiene and avoid in-person gatherings when experiencing the core symptoms of COVID-19 (fever, coughing, body aches, fatigue, loss of taste or smell, etc.)

Again, thank you for your faithful commitment to our mission and one another.

In His Service,

Brad Raby, Lead Pastor

(On behalf of the Fellowship West Leadership Team)