

**Apostolic Christian Church
1332 Middle Bellville Road
Mansfield, OH 44904**

May 20, 2020

Dear Church Family,

Greetings in the precious name of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. As we move beyond two months now that we have been holding live stream – only services due to the Covid-19 pandemic, we are thankful to the Lord that, as of May 12th, non-essential businesses have begun to open back up in Richland County. The church leadership has also met together on Sunday, May 10th, and, after prayerful consideration, has decided, Lord willing, to resume gathering in person for church services starting on Sunday, May 31st. We will gather only for the morning service on Sunday. There will be no lunch in church, afternoon service, nor evening song service at this time. We also plan to begin gathering for Wednesday midweek services beginning on June 3rd. We anticipate the ability to phase in more and more of our regular worship activities as well as lunch in church in due time and when deemed safe and appropriate. We are committed to everyone's safety and as such will implement the recommended guidelines of our government leaders and health officials.

We want you all to be aware of the following temporary guidelines which will be in place as we gather back together on May 31st:

- High risk individuals based on age or predisposed health conditions are advised, and should understand that it is perfectly fine, not to attend in person and rather to continue worshipping via the live stream service.
- Seating in the Sanctuary and Balcony will allow family units to sit together and will maintain at least 6 feet of physical distancing between family units, as directed by the ushers.
- All attendees are encouraged to bring their own Bibles.
- Any person who has had any contact with a known COVID-19 confirmed case or who has flu-like symptoms or fever should stay home and self-quarantine.
- Prior to and following the in-person service, the extent of the facility utilized will be sanitized.
- Hand sanitizer will be made available. Thorough hand washing in the rest rooms is also encouraged.
- There will temporarily be no congregational singing. Instead, we will utilize special numbers as well as hymns played over the sounds system.
- As a temporary measure to prevent any spread of the Coronavirus, congregants should refrain from shaking hands or greeting with a holy kiss.
- Masks will not be handed out at the church service, but anyone who feels they need to wear a mask is encouraged to do so.
- There are currently no plans for physical gathering of Bible Class, Prayer Meeting or Sunday School until further notice from the leaders of these various groups as they develop plans for how and when to safely resume activity in these areas.
- There will be limited access to non-essential areas such as the kitchen.
- The ushers will dismiss us following the service. We should promptly exit the building to maintain appropriate distancing and avoid congestion in the church building.
- Although our other congregations may also begin gathering, please refrain from visitation at this time to help prevent overcrowding of any one facility.

Please understand the above guidelines will be in place when we gather again, Lord willing, on May 31st. Those in charge of the various functions within the church will help monitor the situation and facilitate a phasing in of other activities as the virus would continue to subside. We will keep the church apprised of those developments as time goes on.

May the Lord bless each one of you, and we would ask that you continue to pray for His blessings on our gathering back together and for us to remain a light on a hill in our community that cannot and must not be hid.

In the precious name of Christ Jesus our Lord,

Your elders and ministering staff