

Dear Carmel UMC congregation,

Greetings in the name of Jesus Christ during this time of physical isolation. Though practicing physical distancing, we continue to be connected by the love and grace of Jesus Christ. The staff of CUMC has remained committed to discovering new and creative ways of continuing to be a community called by Christ to connect, grow and serve.

To begin a process of re-opening, the Governing Council has approved the following:

1. Church office will begin with a skeleton staff on Monday, June 8. Hours are expected to be 8-5. Communication via phone or email is preferred to in person contact. The doors to the building will be locked. Access building via door 3 using the entry buzzer. Masks are required. Casual conversations with staff are strongly discouraged to minimize risk to them.
2. Groups will be allowed to begin meeting Monday, June 8 in the building. Group leaders are being notified of the procedure for access to building and building use with protective measures in place. All meetings must be cleared with the church office.
3. Worship schedule effective June 14 and until further notice:
 - A. **Virtual Worship** will continue for both traditional and contemporary services on church website and Facebook.
 - B. A 9 am **Traditional Worship** will be held in the sanctuary.

-Enter building door 3 only and directional signs will provide traffic flow -Masks required from time of entry to exiting as well as six foot social distancing. -Pews will be marked for seating to maintain distancing. This will limit the gathering to around 100 people. No bulletins or materials in pews. -Leadership of worship will not be wearing masks -safely distanced from congregation. -Offering will be received in receptacles at the doorways to the sanctuary. -We will be blessed by wonderful music by soloists and small groups. -No childcare or children's SS. No donuts or coffee. -Bathrooms are only for emergencies.

C. **Contemporary Worship** at 10:45 only rain or shine drive-in style. The east parking lot will be used. Tune into the posted AM station in your car. Bring chairs if you want to sit outside. Social distancing to be observed. Additional points: -We **cannot guarantee** that our building is, or will be, COVID free though we practice diligent cleaning. -Any of an age, or with a medical condition, making you more vulnerable, you are **strongly encouraged** to continue to access worship virtually. -If at anytime going forward, the number of cases of COVID increases, appropriate changes will be made and communicated with the congregation.

I had to be succinct in sharing this information on one page so it feels like more laws than we find in the Old Testament!!! As we navigate these times, I keep in the forefront of my mind and prayers the desire to love and care for one another. I hope that these guidelines are received with the love that is intended. I miss all of you and know that all of you miss one another.

Blessings to you always,

Pastor Patti