

MISSION POINT™

CHURCH



Dear Mission Point Church,

As I process and reflect on these past three months, and plan for the future of us meeting back together, I am reminded that we have all experienced trauma together. We were encouraged to quarantine during this time leading to physical isolation with an overwhelming amount of information that was thrown at us each day leaving it up to us as individuals to discern what was truth and what to believe. This led to a lot of confusion, uncertainty, fear, worry, and at times feeling overwhelmed. Some of you lost loved ones and were not able to visit them in the hospital or grieve over their loss with a proper funeral. Some of you lost your jobs and some of you became full time teachers to your kids. Some had surgeries or health concerns that were moved to a later date. For some this time of quarantine created more stress in your marriage, and revealed some deeper wounds that were going on in your relationship. Our kids experienced the feeling of isolation, and were saddened by the reality of missing their friends. Some had to worry about the physical health of loved ones and the reality that if they caught Covid, it could kill them. Some of you were in positions at work where you had to make some hard decisions in how to lead or lay off people within your company or organization. High School and college students were not able to experience a normal graduation, prom, spring sports, spring plays or recitals. And some of you were put on the front lines for the sake of others to care for their needs as nurses, firefighters and police officers. Each of us have had to endure hard things during this time, but in different ways. We all have experienced some sort of trauma. And now we are trying to navigate the future and how to continue to take appropriate precautions and how to heal (emotionally & physically) from all that we have been through. My hope is that it has caused us to rely and depend more on Jesus.

I believe that during this time the Lord has revealed some things in our lives that were unhealthy, or out of balance. Leading up to quarantine many of us were stressed in our busyness. Sports schedules were too much, work was consuming, family dinners were not happening, relationships and community were not a reality, and church became a weekly tradition. My hope is that in this next season we do not just go back to normal, but that we press the reset button. We take a good look into our hearts, marriages and families and make the appropriate adjustments that are healthy in living out of love for Jesus, and His mission of making disciples who make disciples. My hope is that this season has caused us to depend more on Him. And that we would live more in faith in the Lord and His Word, and less on fear and what the media is telling us.

As a pastor and staff we are striving to put together plans for meeting together again. We understand that everyone has differing opinions on how one should gather. We are trying to be mindful of the different needs and concerns within our church, as well as strive to follow the CDC and the governor. With that said we have put together plans that will be in phases.

Phase 1

Sunday, June 21 and Sunday, June 28

(Possibly longer if need be). We will be offering two services, 9am & 11am. Our 9am service will be an hour long outdoor service. We believe that our outdoor service is a great first step. It will allow people to stay in their cars if they would feel safer that way, and people can space themselves out as far away as they would like. If anyone is not ready for this yet, we will still offer our live stream online service at 11am

Guidelines for our outdoor service:

- Volunteers & Staff will be required to wear masks and will have their temperature taken when they arrive.
- For our outdoor services we are asking that there would be no exchange of physical contact during this time (hugs, high-fives, or pounds).
- Masks will be encouraged but not required for those in attendance.
- If you feel safer staying in your car please pre-register on our website so we can reserve a parking spot for you. Parking will be every other spot.
- We are encouraging everyone to bring their own chairs. We will have orange tape marking out for each family to place their chairs so everyone is appropriately spaced out.
- The buildings will not be open, but if there is a bathroom emergency please find a staff or volunteer and they will guide you to the downstairs bathrooms in the church. Please wear a mask while inside and make sure parents go with children.
- If you stay afterward, we encourage people to fellowship at appropriate distances of six feet apart.
- No children's ministry provided at this time. Corie our children's director will have something special to give to each of your kids when you arrive for them to work on during the sermon.

And most importantly let's give grace to each other. If someone does something that you disagree with, let's not respond in anger toward them, but give grace to those of differing opinions.

Phase 2

Tentatively begin July 5th. We would continue our times of 9am & 11am services. Both of these services would be indoors in our auditorium. (with one being live streamed TBD)

Guidelines for our indoor service:

- Volunteers & Staff will be required to wear masks and will have their temperature taken when they arrive.
- People enter through the front of the building and leave via the rear doors where the stairs lead to the parking lot. We will make accommodations for anyone that can not do the stairs. The parking lot will be the place of fellowship after the services.
- We will have everyone pre-register online so that we can ensure we stay inside the capacity limits given by the state.
- No exchange of physical contact during this time (hugs, high-fives, or pounds).
- Masks will be required for those in attendance.
- No children's ministry provided at this time.
- Chairs would be spaced out in rows of six, and would skip every other row.
- We will have hand-sanitizer stations.

- Clean team will clean surfaces during and in between services.
- No Coffee or fellowship in the cafe during this time.
- Offering baskets will not be passed down the aisles, but will be in designated areas around the auditorium for people to give their gifts or offering at any time during the service, and online giving will still be appreciated.
- After two or three weeks of indoor services, we will see what the governor and CDC are saying and make appropriate decisions and changes based on that information.

Phase 3

- Continue our 9am & 11am indoor services. (with one being live streamed TBD)
- Children's ministry will begin with babies, toddlers and possibly pre-K.
- Cafe will be opened up for fellowship and coffee.
- Hand shakes, hugs, or pounds will be allowed by request only.
- Masks *may* no longer be required.

Please be in prayer for our church, and for us as a leadership team as we work hard at providing a safe place for people to gather together, because we really believe that we are Better Together. Jesus did not call us to follow Him alone, but to gather in life-transforming community where we can break bread together and spur one another on toward love and good deeds in Christ Jesus.

In Christ,

Pastor Rich

