

May 12, 2020

COVID 19 Task Force leadership:

Staff members:

Neil Dunnivant, executive pastor

Danny Massie, interim pastor, worship leader

Dolly Jacobs, pastoral care pastor

John Alexander, director of music ministry

Donna Chase, Director of Christian formation

Tim Millisor, director of property

FPC leaders:

Ed Cox (worship chair, member of Session)

Andy Cochrane (property chair, member of Session)

Andrew Spainhour and Penne Prigge (HR chair/vice chair, rotated/member of Session/member of Session)

Louise Bristol (Clerk of Session)

Tripp Adams (Transition Team chair, rotated elder)

Anne Brown (Nurse, rotated elder)

Wells Brabham (surgeon, member of Session)

Al Lineberry (rotated elder, funeral home director)

Minutes from our 1st meeting:

The purpose of the Task Force is to discuss how best and when to reopen our church, to establish guiding principles to complete our work, and to take our collective thoughts and findings as recommendations to Session. Recognizing that the COVID 19 situation is fluid and what we know today may change tomorrow, the Task Force submits the following to Session as of May 12, 2020:

First, we established the following guiding principles as we fulfill the purpose of this Task Force:

1. The COVID Task Force philosophy for all decisions will be to implement policies for the FPC staff and congregation with the intended goal of slowing the transmission of the Corona Virus.
2. We will prayerfully and thoughtfully develop procedures that keep the safety and health of our community first and foremost.
3. We will consider the timing of the NC Governor's phases, but as a Task force and Session, we will do what we think is best for our congregation based on our size and our multi-generational members.
4. We will make recommendations to the Session on a monthly basis. These recommendations can and will change as the COVID environment evolves.

Second, with the above principles guiding us, we recommend the following to the Session for discussion at our Monday, May 18 Zoom meeting:

1) The campus of FPC will remain closed through June 30. We will continue to livestream services and enhance them so that they are visually appealing and effective and yet not cost prohibitive. We want to take into account that live streaming has become an important medium for our congregation but also honor that future worshipping together is goal. The Worship Committee and staff are in conversation about this. Suggestions for future worship options (date to be determined) will be considered. Options include outdoor worship, worship in several areas (Sanctuary, Mullin Life Center, Redhead hall and Memorial Chapel) with remote streaming. All options will be vetted through Worship Committee and the Session.

2) Gatherings on FPC campus of any small groups will be disallowed through June 30. This includes the Co-Op childcare program, the Swahili worship and Bible study, and New Creation Community.

3) Protocol for reopening the campus for staff to have office hours after June 30 will be developed during the months of May and June. The property committee and director of property are preparing the campus with hand sanitizing stations, masks, etc.

4) Funerals: Only graveside and columbarium services are allowed through June 30, until updated by the Task Force. It is up to the pastors' discretion as to how and when to conduct the services. Funeral policies for any memorial service or funeral after June 30 will be drafted during the month of May in consultation with the Pastoral Care and Worship committees and vetted by the Session.

The Task Force is meeting regularly to assess the evolving COVID environment. We want to emphasize that additional recommendations will be communicated to the Session as quickly as practicable for the Session's discussion and approval.