

Arbuckle Community Church

Connecting to God as a Family

Hey Church,

Just about four months ago our world turned upside down and we were forced to begin thinking outside the box when it came to doing church. Our focus had to leave the weekly live in-person gatherings and become much more focused on us being the church. My very first sermon streamed on YouTube was the last sermon in our core beliefs series called “We Commit.” We focused in on our commitment to Serve Others, and from what I have heard and seen many of you have done just that.

I have seen people put aside their beliefs on the COVID issue and realize that it is more about serving others than being right. Our focus has not only been outward - our Elders have made phone calls and we have dropped communion off to most if not all our Church Members. I have tried to provide you with new teaching not just once a week but multiple times a week.

At the beginning of July, our Elders met and realized that we wanted to stop the roller coaster ride of daily changes from our local, state, and national leaders regarding guidelines and recommendations. To do this we decided to take a cautious and conservative approach and transition our Sunday Morning Services to Live-Stream only for all of July.

With July ending we once again met and made a cautious and conservative decision, but this time it is to transition to in-person services. Looking at the guidelines and recommendations we have chosen to welcome you back to Sunday Morning Service, with just a couple of caveats.

- 1) Services will be held outside on the basketball court and surrounding areas.
 - a. We ask that you bring your own lawn chairs. You can also bring a pop-up tent if you feel the need for shade. During the hour that we are here, there is plenty of shade thanks to the large tree.

- b. We ask that you maintain social distancing; within your own family feel free to sit together but try to keep 6 feet between groups.
 - c. Since we are outside, we will be having a time of musical worship.
- 2) We will continue to provide hand sanitizer and face masks for those that want them.

Also,

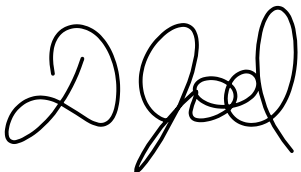
I ask that you keep others in mind as you assess your need. If the people around you are wearing masks, perhaps lean on **Philippians 2:4**: *Let each of you look not only to his own interests, but also to the interests of others.*

- 3) The outside bathroom will be available for use and disinfectant wipes will be available to clean before and after use.
- 4) We will be continuing to Live-Stream our services on YouTube at 10 am. This is both for the people who have joined us from more distant locations and for those with a compromised immune system, those who are currently ill (see attached Wellness Policy), and for those that still would prefer to worship at home.
 - a. However, the 11 am Zoom call will be discontinued for the foreseeable future.

These outdoor services will continue through the end of August. The Elders will once again look at the situation and alter the current plan if need be for September.

I am personally very excited for this next chapter, and long to see many of you again. May God guide you and bless you every day.

In His Service,



Pastor Don

Don Joel – Pastor

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