

Important Announcement from Sherwin

You all are missed. I miss hanging out with all of you and look forward to the time when we can meet again without masks! If we take some precautions now, maybe we can make that time happen sooner than later.

Seminaries don't train pastors to lead a church through a pandemic. I am stumbling through this thing, trying to do what is best for the church, trying to find ways to keep people safe. We've done a good job with shorter worship services, eliminating food and coffee, social distancing and masks. As of Sunday night, the government of Michigan asked for us to take a three week pause and it is my desire, along with the consistory, to comply.

Here are some changes the consistory made:

1. We're going to take a three-week pause from in-person worship services. So, we will not be meeting on Sundays again until December 13. If the Covid numbers have not dropped, we will re-evaluate.
2. When we resume on Dec. 13, we will go to one service only for a time until the number of worshippers increases.
3. That service will take place at 11 AM on Sundays.
4. Because we have two distinct styles of worship, we are going to rotate between them. The traditional (first service) style will be on the first and third Sundays of the month. The contemporary (second service) style will be on the 2nd and 4th Sundays of the month. If the month has 5 Sundays, we'll make a decision as it happens.

This plan is not perfect, but it is the best we can do for the time being. I hope this doesn't inconvenience anyone. We will continue to make videos that will be available on Facetime, Youtube and laketonbethel.org.

Thanks for your patience as we figure out how to get through this pandemic.

SB