

Hi Church!

With permission of Bishop McKee, First Duncanville is preparing for a **return to in-person worship!**

We are aware that not everyone will be comfortable returning to the sanctuary just yet. That is okay! We will continue to produce worship videos and we will livestream from the sanctuary at 10:30 on Sunday mornings. We will also continue to connect in the many ways we have learned to do that during the past 7 months.

If you do wish to return, you will need to follow **all COVID protocols** for First Duncanville. In order to familiarize yourself with them, study this note and watch our Return to In-Person Worship **videos**.

Currently the plan is to do “soft openings” (practice openings) on October 18th and 25th. Attendance at these services is **invitation only**. Two of our Sunday school classes have been practicing the protocols and will assist our teams in making sure we are ready for a larger crowd on

November 1. That’s the day we hope to officially open for in-person worship. This also happens to be **All Saints Sunday**, and we have a wonderful worship service planned.

Friends, we may not need to say it again, but we will: We are living in unusual times. Things happen. Plans change. We’ve given up trying to predict the future. So while we are working toward a November 1 in-person worship goal, remember – it is **a goal, not a guarantee**.

All our COVID protocols remain in place for in-person worship. These protocols are intended for your protection and the protection of others. Remember the first rule of Methodism is to “Do No Harm.” **We love you** and want you to be around for a long time!

Some protocol highlights are:

- Wear a face covering at all times. The covering must fully cover your mouth and nose. It cannot be a bandana. It cannot be vented. If you do not have a face covering, one will be provided to you when you arrive.
- Maintain 6 feet of space between others not in your household.
- Be prepared to sit in the areas that are marked by tape. Do not sit in areas that are blocked off.
- Go in the “in doors” and out the “out doors,” as labeled.
- No food or drink will be served.
- No gathering in common areas such as the narthex.
- Instead of a handshake, try an air hug, a bow, or a virtual high five.
- We will not have congregational singing. Liturgy will be limited.
- Childcare will not be provided until further notice. We will not have children’s Sunday school.

We are looking forward to seeing you! If you have questions, please contact the church office. We want to make our return to in-person worship as easy and as special as possible. Thank you for all the ways you care for one another!

In Christ,

-The Staff and Lay Leadership of FUMCD