

On Friday President Trump declared that churches are essential and encouraged churches to open their doors this weekend. That is certainly great news! At Valley, we want to have our doors open, not simply because we can but because it is the right thing to do.

While the immediacy of the President's statement was exciting, it can also bring about feelings of doubt and fear, quite possibly because we have become accustomed to thinking that way for the past few months. At Valley we have determined to move forward cautiously, respectfully and prayerfully. So while we would be allowed to meet together (following restrictions laid out by the CDC) it is impossible to have things in order to do so this Sunday, so our decision is to have our first "in-person" gathering next Sunday May 31<sup>st</sup>. We will be seeking input from all of you to ascertain if we can proceed with one service or if we will need additional services to act within the guidelines.

As has been my custom throughout, I will be at the building tomorrow at 9:00 and will view the prepared service at 9:37. I invite you to join me under certain conditions. First, we will practice social distancing at all times. Secondly, if you are more comfortable continuing to wear a mask, then please do so. Thirdly, we will not be having any drinks or donuts, we are still assessing the best way to address this issue. And finally, if you have any hesitation about being in a group, if you are in any way feeling ill, or if you have complications that could make you a much higher risk – please stay home. We will access the restrooms on a one at a time basis, taking time to sanitize them after each person. We will be having communion, but it will be with individual disposable cups. If you do decide to come, bring your tablet or iPad so that you can communicate with the church family as we have been doing. Rest assured that we will continue to Live Stream our services so they can be accessed online.

We will have daily communications this coming week that will keep you up to date on our progress.

I know that this step can bring questions or concerns or even disagreement. Please feel free to contact me at any time. Probably the best contact for me is through my cell phone 970.980.6810.

And finally, the most important step is that we move forward prayerfully so please be in prayer as we make important decisions in the days ahead.

In Christ  
Lane