

LAWNDALE

Presbyterian Church

December 3, 2020

Dear Lawndale Family:

Merry Christmas to you all!

Due to the Mississippi State Department of Health's recent public health guidance and the fact our hospital is at maximum capacity, the Session, in consultation with our Covid Team, has decided on the following measures:

1. To reduce capacity at both the 8:30 a.m. and the 10:30 a.m. services to 50 people.
2. To suspend all Sunday School.
3. To suspend the nursery for both services.
4. To encourage "at risk" persons to consider watching the service via livestream.
5. To reaffirm the mandatory masking requirement for in-person attendance.

These measures will be reevaluated as conditions improve.

In terms of other church gatherings coming up, the Youth Christmas Party on Wednesday 12/9 is still going forward, but safety adjustments will be made. Also, the outside Advent Gathering on Sunday 12/13 is still scheduled, but the final decision will be made next Thursday.

We all feel the disappointment with having to return to our re-opening restrictions, especially during the Christmas season! It's such a stark reminder that though Jesus has come and has redeemed us, he hasn't restored all things yet. We long for that day! In the meantime, we rely upon his sufficient grace and trust he's using even this to form us into his image.

Our goal is to keep in-person worship going even during this dangerous time, and hopefully to be able to loosen things up again before too long. The deep need to worship in the midst of this trial makes me think of Psalm 3.3: "But you, O Lord, are a shield about me, my glory, and the lifter of my head." Our covenant God is the One who keeps us truly safe, he's our true glory, whom we're created to worship, and he's the One who lifts up our spirits when we're down.

Grace to you and peace,
Bill

Member of the Presbyterian Church in America

"For we do not preach ourselves, but Jesus Christ as Lord, and ourselves as your servants for Jesus' sake."

II Corinthians 4:5