



Hooker Memorial Christian Church (Disciples of Christ)

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Dear Church,

I pray that all of us are doing, relatively, well and trusting God. Prayer has been at the center of every conversation as we have considered how to best meet the spiritual needs of the congregation, during an ongoing global pandemic. We praise God that, as a church, our Vaccination rate is high. Almost everyone over the age of 12 has received their vaccines, and most families with those under 12 intend to inoculate once available. This is good news as we seek to be all that we can in our community and as we grow faithfully as a church in the emerging post-pandemic.

We invite all to **Worship Onsite and Online each week at 10:30 AM**. Youth can participate in **Worship & Wonder** as part of our Onsite Worship. How we Worship continues to evolve as we navigate comfort levels of those worshipping Onsite and continue to offer the Online option. Your understanding, patience, and willingness to learn and grow in faith through this area of church growth has been deeply appreciated. The At-Home Worship Packets will continue to be sent out monthly. Bible Study each week is on Zoom, Facebook Live and even in person. We will also continue to keep all updated on any changes.

Any form of in-person worship also means an acceptance of the risk ingathering. Prayerfully know that these practices only lessen COVID-19 transmission, they do not prevent it. We have adapted our Covenant of Best Practices and will continue to do so in the coming months.

Covenant of Best Practices:

1. Stay Home if you are ill, exhibit any symptoms of Covid-19, or if you have been in contact with anyone who is diagnosed or awaiting testing results, even if you have yet to display any symptoms—within the last 14 days.
2. Wear a Mask if unvaccinated. Those who are vaccinated are encouraged to wear a mask in common areas but can choose to not do so as they feel comfortable.
3. Practice Physical Distancing in entering, sitting, and exiting.
4. We will have No Contact Communion and No Contact Offering. You may bring your own communion or utilize Hand Sanitizer before picking up the Pre-Packaged Ones. Offering Plates will be placed for you to leave your tithes and offerings as you enter or exit. You are asked to also dispose of your own trash as you leave.
5. Worship & Wonder is offered each week. The Nursery is available and will be staffed as needed.
6. Our Order of Worship is different to accommodate the Live-Stream, there will also be Limited Singing.
7. There will be No Paper Bulletins, everything will be on the screens.
8. Sunday-School Bible Study will continue by Zoom and Facebook Live, and will not be in person at this time.

We all are aware that Church has not been, will not look, will not feel, and honestly, will not be the same for quite a while. Even so, we are Hooker Memorial Christian Church (Disciples of Christ), and we are continually growing in faith, as we grow in love of one another, our community, and our world. We are the Church, changing and adapting to the time we live in. We are finding ways to be the church here and now, and always seeking to share the Good News of Jesus' ministry in our world.

I continue to hold all in prayer as we grow in faith and grow in love together,

Rev. Kara R. Swartz