



A caring and affirming Christ-centered fellowship, lay-led and community focused.

March 9, 2021

Dear Church Family,

Grace and peace to you in the name of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. On April 3, 2020 I wrote to you saying, *"I write to you during a unique time in our history. COVID-19, and all its disruptions to life, is a harsh reality. Just a few days ago, Governor Cooper issued a 'Stay at Home' order effective until April 29th. There is much uncertainty in our lives."* Wow! It's been almost a year, and we have lived with a lot of uncertainty.

APRIL 11TH!!! Church Council met last night and April 11th is the day we will resume in-person worship. We will have one service at 10:00 am, and we will follow our COVID-19 worship guidelines (pre-registration, temperature checks, social distancing, masks, no congregational singing, etc.). On April 5th a registration link will be sent via email.

Volunteers. In the fall many of you volunteered to serve on the COVID-19 worship team. In the near future you will receive information about training dates. We also realize that many of you who were hesitant to volunteer in the past are now vaccinated and willing to serve in this capacity. A new volunteer registration form is also in the near future.

Sunday School. Adult Sunday School classes can immediately resume in-person classes on campus. Class size is limited to 25 persons and COVID-19 guidelines (social distancing, masks, etc.) apply to all meetings. Also, anyone meeting on campus for any reason needs to register with the church office. This allows us to sanitize the rooms following the meetings. Please contact Linda McGrath to register your meetings.

Easter (April 4th)!!! We are Easter people! We serve and worship a risen savior. Easter worship (10:00 am) will take place in the parking lot, and will be broadcast via FM transmitter. We have planned an exciting worship service that includes a brass quintet, baptisms, reaffirmation of baptism, and Holy Communion. Mark your calendars now.

I close with something else I wrote on April 3, 2020: *"One thing that remains certain: 'God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble' (Psalm 46:1). Thanks be to God."* While a lot has changed in eleven months, God's sheltering presence and strength during the difficult times have remained a constant. What a mighty God we serve!

I anticipate the day when I see your smiling faces and worship with you in the flesh. Until then, may God's blessings flow freely into your lives.

Grace and peace,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads 'Randy'.

Pastor Randy

1207 West Dixon Boulevard, Shelby, NC 28152
Aldersgateshelby.com
704-487-8491