

221 Barnett Street, West Jefferson, NC 28694 PO Box 743, Jefferson, NC 28640

Church Meeting Guidelines for May 31, 2020

Based on the new guidance from the courts and Governor Roy Cooper's Executive Order 141 Section 4, we are happy to announce that Restoration Church will begin meeting in person on May 31, 2020. It just so happens that this is Pentecost Sunday! As Christians, we are compelled in scripture to live according to the word of God (Matthew 4:4) while also respecting our governing authorities (Romans 13:1). God's word tells us that we should not forsake meeting together as Christians (Hebrews 10:25), therefore whenever and wherever possible, we should attempt to meet together corporately. This is our right as believers. As Christian citizens, we are also supposed to be peaceful and put the needs and welfare of others above our own needs (Romans 14:19). Therefore, as we begin to worship corporately in person again, we need to be mindful of one another in regard to health, comfortability, and most importantly in spiritual matters. *Please remember, to use your best judgment as to whether or not you should attend church. If you are experiencing symptoms of COVID 19, you should contact your doctor and get tested, stay at home, and take the necessary precautions. Beyond that, call us and we will begin to pray for you.* Please read over the details of how our worship services will proceed on May 31st and beyond, until we receive new direction from the Lord.

Where will we meet?

Restoration Church located at 221 Barnett Street, West Jefferson, NC 28694

When will we meet?

We will begin meeting in person beginning on Sunday, May 31, 2020.

Please know that if you do not feel comfortable meeting in person that *we will still be putting on services online.* No one should feel ashamed, embarrassed, condemned, or judged if they are not comfortable meeting in person.

At what time(s)?

We will have <u>two services</u> so that we can practice <u>social distancing</u>. Families will be allowed to sit together on the same row. Congregants will be seated 6 feet apart from anyone not in their family or whom they do not travel to and from church with. Common sense will guide this process. Remember, it is a process. Who comes to what service will be facilitated by congregants filling out this <u>survey</u>.

8:45-9:15: Praise Team Practice

9:30-10:30: 1st Service

11:00-12:00: 2nd Service

It is important that people attending the first service make sure that they exit the parking lot promptly after service so that those coming in will have a place to park.

What about personal contact?

If you wish to hug or shake hands with anyone, please ask for their permission and be mindful that it is a personal right of another to say, "no" to being touched.

Also, be mindful to wash and sanitize your hands whenever possible.

Do I have to wear a mask and/or gloves?

We are not requiring that anyone wear a mask and/or gloves to come to church. If you feel that you need to wear a mask and/or gloves, feel free to do so.

What about Kids' Church?

We will not have Kids' Church initially. Once we get the hang of two services and a schedule for those teachers, we may adjust this plan.

What about the nursery?

Parents may utilize the nursery if they have need. However, we will not be providing childcare at this time.

What about Teen Bible Study?

We will not have Teen Bible Study initially. Once we get the hang of two services and a schedule for those teachers, we may adjust this plan.

What about Wednesday night in-home Bible Studies?

We desperately want to get back into our Gospel Foundations Bible Study. However, with social distancing guidelines, it is nearly impossible to meet in homes to do this. We may move those meetings to the church and allow leaders to rotate turns teaching. More information on that front will come soon.

What about offerings?

As always, the offering box is located in the back of the church and you are encouraged to give if you can and in accordance with New Testament teaching. You can mail in your offering if you are not able to attend in person to PO Box 743, Jefferson, NC 28640. However, I want to stress that if your family is in need and you cannot give, do not feel condemned. God understands your situation. Use your money to meet the needs of your

household and others that you know. In addition, if you have needs, feel free to reach out to us by visiting our website and clicking on the "Contact Us" tab. Bottom line, we care about your soul, not your money. Give unto God as the Holy Spirit leads (2 Corinthians 9:7).

When will things go back to normal?

Pray to God that this disease is taken away, that our churches can reconvene in the way that we all love, and that *God's Will*, will be done in the midst of all of this. Pray for souls. Remember, you are the church, so now go and be the church!