



JOSHUA SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTIST CHURCH

COVID-19 Update

July 29, 2020

Dear Church Family,

As a pastoral staff, we wanted to let you know what we are doing in trying to get us back together as a church family. First, we want to encourage everyone to attend our services if you are feeling well enough or if you do not feel vulnerable in any way. Second, if you feel for your safety being back in groups of people, we would like to encourage you to continue participating remotely. Now let us explain what we are going to try to do at least for the next month. We are only able to make decisions from month to month, so we appreciate your flexibility and understanding at this time.

We are working on a hybrid service to incorporate elements of the traditional service, our family worship, our online worshippers, and Sabbath School (which we hope to restart soon). We will begin our service at 10:30 a.m. to incorporate all these elements.

What everyone thinks or considers our "regular" service we are not going to be able to do for quite some time. Things that involve passing the offering plate or lamb's offering we are not able to do and will not be able to do for the foreseeable future. Also, we cannot have the children gather in a group for children's story (we are still going to have a story of some type, though). Also, we have had to remove all the hymnals, Bibles, and tithe envelopes from the pews (due to cleaning requirements). If you have your own Bible, hymnal, or apps on your devices, we encourage you to bring

them. Also, we are not able to have any shared meals (fellowship meals) until further notice. There will be no printed materials (bulletins) to share publicly (hopefully we can have these available for personal pick-up soon). We are to practice social distancing and sit every other pew. Also, inside the building, we are encouraging the use of facemasks unless you are leading out in the service.

We know that many of you were looking forward to coming back to regular service, and hopefully, in the future, we will be able to return to it. We ask for your patience and prayers as we make decisions to try to protect as many people as possible, working with the guidance of the Texas Conference, the State of Texas, and our local authorities.

Please pray for those who are sick and for all those who are caring for them.

Please pray for our school, the teachers, and the students, as we are planning on returning to "in-person" classes on August 17.

We hope to see you all at church, but if you are unable to attend in person, continue joining us at 10:30 a.m. each Sabbath as we come to you live from our sanctuary at the Joshua Seventh-day Adventist Church on our Facebook page, our website, and our YouTube channel.

We are looking forward to seeing you all in person.

Blessings,

Pastor Dennis Austin
Pastor Isaac Heath