

Friends,

It is with immense sadness that I must let you know that we will be suspending in person worship indefinitely at First Presbyterian Church beginning this Sunday. Our hope is still that we might have in person Christmas Eve (dependent on the numbers).

As the second wave has approached, leadership has closely watched the New Jersey numbers hit new infection records and Warren County moving into a “High” risk category. The Session and Worship committee has always held New Jersey’s threshold number of 3% infection rate as the baseline of opening or shutting down. We now find ourselves at 3%.

Our congregation is in a building that lacks the proper ventilation and our congregation routinely involves congregants in vulnerable population groups. With these two factors it is the loving and compassionate act to close again.

We will continue to livestream the service. We will be limiting those who are there during the filming time as well.

Thank you for your understanding and patience. This decision has not been taken lightly. Please keep in your prayers all those who will be impacted by this virus today and well into our future. Also, pray for a swift resolution to this pandemic in the near future.

Peace,  
Rev. Brian Merritt