



Growing in the Grace and Knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ... (2 Peter 3:18)

Mailing address:
P.O. Box 1765 Bentonville, AR 72712

Meeting at:
2300 S. 13th Street
Rogers, Arkansas 72758
Edward K. Godfrey, Pastor
(479) 636-2457 ♦♦♦ www.HopeCBC.org

June 12, 2020

Hope CBC Family and Friends,

We continue to long for the time when we will be able to have the whole congregation back together. Since May 7, we have been loosely adhered to the Phase 1 guidelines for meeting together put out by the Arkansas Department of Health. Back in May, the number of cases and hospitalizations were very low. However, even as the rest of Arkansas gets set to enter in to Phase 2, Washington and Benton Counties is experiencing a dramatic spike in cases as well as hospitalizations. So technically, while Arkansas in general is set to enter Phase 2 on June 15, NW Arkansas is being asked to maintain stricter protocols until this spike is over.

In light of this, in order to adhere to the requests of our local governments, in order to protect one another from the virus during this spike, Hope Community Bible Church will be practicing the stricter protocols of Phase 1 for a least the next couple of weeks at which time we hope to see this spike end.

What does this mean for Hope CBC? For the most part this changes little of what we have already been practicing. We will only be offering a physical service with social distancing during our AM service; all other services will be online/live streaming only. The “change” for Hope is that for the next couple of weeks or so, we are calling on everyone who attends the AM service to wear a face covering. While they may be uncomfortable to some, we simply want to get through this current spike while minimizing the risk of exposure to one another.

As a reminder, we are following these guidelines as an act of faith and obedience to God as we practice Romans 13:1-6. The Church Leadership Team does not see

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Scripture Alone

Solus Christus
Christ Alone

Sola Gratia
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the government as asking or instructing the church any differently than it is handling other such entities. There is no form of persecution on the church. Therefore, beginning this Sunday, June 14, we will implement the following guidelines. Please review and plan accordingly.

- Hope CBC will continue to offer our **Live Streaming online platform** as an alternative means of participation in worship for those congregants whom it is not yet advisable/feasible to physically attend in-person services.
- Hope CBC advises all congregants **NOT TO ATTEND** our physical services if:
 - You have had a **fever of 100.4°F** or higher in the past 2 days
 - You have a cough, shortness of breath, or other symptoms typical of Covid-19
 - You have had known exposure to someone with Covid-19 in the past 14 days
- Hope CBC **REMINDS** congregants that they may wish to refrain from our physical service who are 65 or more years old or have underlying health conditions, including high blood pressure, chronic lung disease, diabetes, severe obesity, asthma or immunocompromising conditions, to refrain from attending in-person services because they are at higher risk for severe illness if infected by Covid-19.
- Hope CBC is **DIRECTING** congregants to enter the facility through the front double glass doors and to exit the facilities through the back double glass doors. (Exceptions will be made for any handicapped congregants. Please seek to maintain 6 feet between people while entering).
- Hope CBC will provide hand sanitizing stations at our public entrances and recommend you use them.
- All congregants will maintain the 6-foot physical distancing protocol (apart from family groups) both indoors and outdoors.

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- Hope CBC **WILL NOT ADMIT** anyone into the building the building without a face covering and such face coverings are to be worn by congregants at all times while indoors. Hope CBC will have extra face coverings for those who need them but would ask that you bring your own. The exceptions to the wearing of face coverings will be:
 - Worship leaders/singers (while addressing the congregation)
 - Pastor or individuals preaching/teaching.
 - All congregants who participate in the Lord's Table (only while actually partaking of the elements).
 - Face coverings for children under 10 years are optional
 - Face coverings for children under 2 years old are **PROHIBITED** by CDC guidelines
 - **Children are welcome to participate in worship service at the discretion of their parents.** There will be **NO children's ministries or nursery** at this time. Therefore, **parents are responsible to keep their children with them at all times.**
- Hope CBC **ASKS** that all greetings or conversations to be held outdoors due to the indoor face covering expectation.
- Hope CBC **ASKS** the congregants to refrain from any physical contact with each other outside of family groups; no hand shaking, touching, embracing, etc. **NO HOLY KISSING!**
- Hope CBC will sanitize all high-touch surfaces in the sanctuary and common areas after and between services.
- Hope CBC **ASKS** that all congregants move outside at the end of service for any interaction with one another while maintaining the 6-foot physical distancing protocol.

We will be glad when all of this is over; in the meantime, let us not neglect the gathering of saints as we seek to worship our great God and our Lord and

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Savior Jesus Christ in the power of the Holy Spirit in accordance with His Holy Word.

Soli Deo Gloria

The Church Leadership Team

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