

Salem Baptist Church

Pastor's Statement on In-Person Gathering

Dear Family,

As you know, for the last eighteen months or so, we have been mainly gathering for worship outdoors and in very limited capacity indoors. We thank God that many of you have been able to join us virtually. Now, although our virtual gathering has been, and will continue to be a blessing for those who are unable to attend in-person; we know that virtual should not be our primary means of gathering for worship. As a result, we have prayerfully decided to begin a phased re-opening of in-person gathering in the sanctuary on Sunday, November 7th, 2021.

We will begin with an in-person capacity of fifty persons and will gradually increase that number based on the COVID-19 trends and our capacity to continue gathering safely. Of course, we will continue to take every precaution to gather safely by maintaining all CDC and DC Department of Health protocols.

Additionally, we will be disinfecting the entire sanctuary on Mondays and Saturdays. During the week of November 1st, we will be posting on our website, www.salemdc.org, a Registration Form. Everyone who desires to attend our in-person gatherings must use this form to register each week they choose to attend. For our family members who are unable to access our website, our leaders who have been your point of contact will be available to get you registered. You may also contact me if you need any assistance.

Let me reiterate, we must follow our COVID-19 protocols and guidelines. Remember, the safety of all our family members is at stake. We trust God to safeguard our health, as we also do our part to abide by the District's guidelines on gathering, practicing social distancing, and wearing of face masks. Remember Paul's words to the church at Philippi: *"be humble and consider others more important than yourselves. Care about them as much as you care about yourselves"* (Philippians 2:3-4, CEV).

It is my prayer that our love for Jesus Christ will constrain us, so that, as we gather, whether in-person or virtual, our concern will consistently be for others.

In Christ's Love,

Pastor

David McIntosh-Peters

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In-Person Attendance Guidelines

Please note that all attendees must:

1. Be fully vaccinated, including children
2. Register online at www.salemdc.org before attending
3. Complete and sign the Liability Agreement
4. Take the Symptom Self-survey before attending
5. Check their temperature at the entrance before entering the sanctuary
6. Wear a face mask
7. Sit in designated seats only
8. Stay at least 6 feet from others who are not members of their family
9. Avoid shaking hands and making any physical contact
10. Utilize hand sanitizer stations and/or use their personal hand sanitizers
11. Follow all posted guidelines

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COVID-19 Liability Agreement

I, _____, acknowledge that by registering and attending in-person gatherings at Salem Baptist Church, that I agree to the following:

On behalf of myself and any family member, I hereby release Salem Baptist Church, its employees, volunteers, and members from all liabilities, claims, costs, or expenses of any kind arising out of or relating to my attendance at such in-person gatherings.

I understand and agree that this release includes any claims based on the actions, omissions, or negligence of Salem Baptist Church, its employees, volunteers, and members whether a COVID-19 infection occurs before, during, or after my attendance.

My signature below attests that I agree to the above statement.

Name: _____ Signature: _____ Date: _____

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COVID-19 SYMPTOM SELF-SURVEY

PLEASE TAKE THIS COVID-19 SYMPTOM SELF-SURVEY BEFORE ATTENDING ANY IN-PERSON EVENT AT SALEM BAPTIST CHURCH.

If you registered for an in-person gathering, but you now have ANY of the following symptoms, please DO NOT ATTEND. Contact your health care provider.

- Fever or chills
- Repeated shaking with chills
- Cough
- Shortness of breath or difficulty breathing
- Fatigue
- Muscle or body aches
- Headache
- New loss of taste or smell
- Sore throat
- Congestion or runny nose
- Nausea or vomiting
- Diarrhea

Is any of the following true?

- You are ill
- You are caring for someone who is ill

In the two weeks before you felt sick, did you:

- Have contact with someone diagnosed with COVID-19?
- Live in or visit a place where COVID-19 is spreading?

Even if you have JUST ONE of the symptoms that may be related to COVID-19, please do not attend. Contact your health care provider.