

May 15, 2020 Update

Dear MBCLA Church Family,

As the Safer-at-Home Order continues, the leadership is planning how to safely re-open the church. Our aim is to meet the spiritual needs of our church family while adhering to LA County's guidelines. The following initial steps have been taken:

- A core committee consisting of both the pastoral staff & lay leaders has been formed under the leadership of our senior pastor.
- A process to make decisions pertaining to the reopening of the church has been determined.
- Several subcommittees have been formed to consider building maintenance, cleaning procedures, adherence to social distancing rules, reopening of worship services, and clear communication to our entire church family. We have enlisted lay professionals in areas including health, building/construction, audio-visual, and IT.
- Please pray for this team to make wise decisions & to communicate clearly.

In addition, the pastoral staff has decided that we will not participate in the Lord's Supper while in quarantine. Here is the rationale for our decision:

- In I Corinthians 11, the Lord's Supper takes place when the church gathers together to show the togetherness and unity of the church in Christ. Due to our desire to represent this oneness, we will wait until we can communally observe the Lord Supper.

Please note the following calendar changes due to COVID-19:

- Missions Committee – The YSMP, Central Asia, and East Asia short-term mission trips have been cancelled. In the interim, the Missions Committee is developing a strategy to equip our members to be more passionate & effective in global ministries.
- Children's Ministry - Vacation Bible School this summer has been cancelled. However, our children ministries (Preschool to 6th grade) remain active. For more information on preschool to Kindergarten online activities, please email mbclakids@gmail.com.
- Summer Retreat — After prayerful discussions, the Retreat Committee has made the difficult decision to cancel this year's summer retreat in September at UC San Diego.

Here are additional church updates:

- Finances - In April, church offering was short of the budget. However, the church still has a moderate surplus for the month. We thank God for the generosity of our church family.
- Community Service - Ongoing distribution of masks, weekly meal & grocery deliveries to over 30 families and individuals, financial assistance to the community & other churches, and the delivery of bananas to our neighbors—the police station, fire station, and local residents.
- Building Project - HVAC units have been installed on the roof, stucco work is commencing, and foundation work for the bridge has completed. The City's approval is still pending for demolition of the building at 217 N. Garfield Ave.

The MBCLA Staff