

Hello-

Last night the Overbrook UMC board met to talk about safe ways to begin the process of resuming in person worship. The board worked with State of Kansas, Osage County, and Great Plains Conference resources as guides to help us make the best decisions possible in regard to the health of our church body and community. I am pleased to announce that starting **Sunday, June 7 at 10:00 A.M.** we will start in person worship outside on the front lawn of the church.

Here's what you need to know about outside worship:

- If you uncomfortable being outside or your health doesn't permit you to be around others currently, you are encouraged to stay home. We completely understand. We love you and want what is best for your health and well-being and that of our community.
- Worship will still be available on-line. It won't be uploaded until after services have concluded.
- We will be writing down names of attenders as guidelines dictate. The reason for this is if someone in attendance tests positive for COVID-19, other attenders can be reached to take appropriate steps. If this is problematic for you, we encourage you to worship online with us.
- Social distancing guidelines are still in effect and are expected to be followed. Families are allowed to sit together.
- A short-range FM channel will be available for those who wish to attend worship from the parking lot or if weather requires to cancel lawn participation.
- If the weather isn't cooperating, services will be available from the parking lot at worship time on the short range FM channel and also uploaded online after the service is completed.
- Bulletins will be available online only, so print from home if you require one.
- A kiosk box will be set up for tithing or you are welcome to tithe through the mail.

- Dress appropriately for summer weather.
- Bring a blanket, lawn chairs, umbrella, sunscreen, etc. Whatever you need to be comfortable at 10:00 A.M. in the Kansas summer weather for an hour.
- The bathrooms will be available, but we are asking people to stay out of other areas of the church. This limits what has to be cleaned up following worship.
- Children, your parents should accompany you at all times to encourage following social distancing guidelines. It's a big job, but I know you are up to it!
- Singing is discouraged as it is one of the top three spreaders of COVID-19. If the spirit moves you, we are asking that you would quietly say the words to the songs presented.
- Children need to stay in place for children's time instead of coming forward.
- For now, Sunday school class will continue to be given in an online format.
- The church building is not opening for activities at this time. The board will reassess at the beginning of July on this matter.
- It's a lot to process and a lot of moving parts involved in worshipping outside. Patience and understanding will be key to making this be a fruitful experience for all.

I am thrilled at this opportunity to get back together for worship. I'm excited about our continued online presence as well. Regardless of how you join us, I am looking forward to Sunday worship!

Blessings,

Pastor Dean Lashley