

April 27, 2020

Good Monday!

Those of us who are living in Ohio are awaiting the word from our Governor as he is to share his plan for re-opening businesses and “life” once again. Over and over, Governor DeWine and Dr. Amy Acton have been telling us that it will not be like turning a light switch on and life will be back to normal. It is going to be something gradual and there will be steps involved before we in this state get back to something that is closer to the “normal” we once remembered.

While the people (and pastor) of First Christian Church are anxious to gather together back in the Church building, we need to be cautious as to what that may look like. Like the governor, I will be meeting with the elders of our church this week to discuss what coming back together will begin to look like. And it is important to remember, that like the state in which we live, it won't be like turning on a light switch. There will be some steps that we take to make sure that all is safe when we come together. Again, the number one priority will be for us to be safe and healthy through all of this and for however long that may take.

We don't like change. I know that I am somewhat reluctant to make big changes. But I want to take the rest of this letter to remind you of that which will not change.

Number one: God. God is still on His throne and His love for us will never end. In fact, we can be encouraged to remember that “**God** so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life. (John 3:16)

Number two: Jesus Christ. “**Jesus Christ** is the same yesterday and today and forever.” (Hebrews 13:8)

Number three: The Holy Spirit. His power is what will get us through this time. In fact, Paul talked about how His power is what we can count on during this time. In Romans 15:13 Paul wrote: “May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace as you trust in him, so that you may overflow with hope by the power of the **Holy Spirit.**”

Be encouraged in these three truths as we await our next steps.

I look forward to seeing many of you soon. But baby steps first.

Blessings to you!

Pastor Tim