

May, 2021

...Samuel took a stone and set it up between Mizpah and Shen. He named it Ebenezer, saying, "Thus far the LORD has helped us."

1 Samuel 7:12 (NIV)

Greetings Redemption Hill Family –

For nearly 15 months we have been doing ministry in creative and different ways in response to the pandemic. Praise the LORD—things are rapidly improving and we will be resuming a more “normal” pattern of life! We are excited to announce that **masks are now optional at all events**, indoors and outdoors.

**Beginning on June 20, we will resume indoor worship services at 9:15 and 11:00 a.m. each week.** The 11:00 a.m. service will continue to be simulcast online and posted to our web platforms for those not yet able gather in person. If possible, we encourage you to join us on campus. We will continue to meet on the lawn at 9:00 a.m. until June 13, which will be our final outdoor service. On June 20 we will offer seating in the patio between the Worship Center and McClintock’s both hours for those who prefer to remain outdoors a little longer.

Our new ministry year begins on July 1. We will have a **congregational meeting at 5:00 p.m., Sunday June 6** in the worship center to vote on the new budget and leaders. The ballot will be posted for your review beginning this Sunday.

The Pandemic has not ended. No doubt, many things will eventually have to find a “new normal”. Moving forward, we seek to be prayerful, humble and wise in how we respond. We are deeply grateful for God’s grace in sustaining us and for your faithfulness and your prayerful, patient flexibility as time and again we have had to adjust. As things are shifting we continue to seek his grace and ask you to remain faithful, prayerful, patient and flexible.

Restoring ministries that have been reduced will take time. We will need many to step into new roles of service in ushering, greeting, worship, students, adults and especially children’s ministries. Key needs will be highlighted in the coming weeks, but if God is already prompting you to step up, please don’t wait—start a conversation now!

We must also lift our eyes to our needy world in fresh ways. Jesus has called us to be disciples who make disciples who make disciples—a simple concept, but challenging to live out. Outreach, compassion and cross-cultural ministry have been deeply affected by COVID. We need Spirit-sensitivity, wisdom and creativity to respond to new opportunities from God.

This season has been taxing on all of us, and we are not yet fully free from its effects. But we are deeply grateful for God's help thus far and look forward to his grace moving forward. Some of us have gotten sick and a number have lost loved ones to COVID. We pray God's continued grace on any experiencing ongoing hardship and heartache. Many of us have suffered economically—and all of us have struggled at times with the restrictions we have endured. We are praying that God would restore what has been lost through this time and that our character as followers of Jesus would be forever changed.

We love you and are deeply grateful to journey with you in all circumstances. As always, if you have any questions or concerns, please start a conversation with any of our overseers.

For the Leadership Team,

Pastor Robert