

May 27, 2020

Dear KBC Ohana,

You may not remember what happened in the Fall of 2019, Christmas 2019 or the New Year of 2020, but you will probably never forget what has happened during the Spring of 2020. The COVID-19 pandemic will live on in our memories like the first moon landing in July 1969, the fall of the Berlin Wall in November 1989 or the September terrorist attacks of 2001. The virus and the social distancing guidelines that have accompanied it have changed almost everything about our daily lives, and the changes are still not over. That can be discouraging. Like you, I'm ready to experience the new normal with eased restrictions; even though I recognize that each step will take wisdom, caution, and patience. Thankfully, our perspective as Christ-followers is *God is with us working for our good and His glory no matter what circumstances accompany our journey.*

In the last several weeks, your pastoral staff and ministry leaders have been praying for God's direction and have been preparing for the reopening of our campus for Sunday worship services. We are all excited and thankful that this upcoming Sunday, May 31, the Church will return to the building. As we return, please keep in mind that we do so in wisdom, with caution and while practicing patience.

In these couple of pages, I am pleased to share our upcoming Sunday morning plans with you. It is important that we all find ourselves on the same page, so please read the following carefully:

- The campus is open to the community only during the Sunday morning worship hour (9:30 AM). During the week, the campus remains closed to everyone—other than staff and essential finance workers—until further notice.
- In order to comply with the social distancing guidelines, we are limiting the available seating in our sanctuary. If we are unable to meet the capacity needs, we will increase the number of Sunday morning services; however, for the time being our only service option will be at 9:30 AM.
- The doors will be open to receive you and control congestion beginning at 9:10 AM. Please honor the 6-foot social distancing guidelines—give aloha waves not hugs or shakas but no handshakes.
- Our worship services will be for the entire family, with no childcare provided at the beginning of our relaunch. The entire service will last no more than 1 hour and will include a children's message, adult message and worship.
- We will continue online Sunday worship services going forward and recommend that anyone in a "high-risk" category (over 65 years of age and those with underlying medical conditions) participate in our worship from home.
- Prior to entering the building, your temperature will be taken by our volunteer staff (forehead thermometer). If your temperature is over 100 degrees, we will have a place for you to sit and we will check it again after 5 minutes have passed. If it continues to be elevated, you will be advised to return home.

- Our restroom facilities will be open. However, each individual user will be responsible for the cleaning of the facility with the supplied cleaning agents. We encourage (if possible) that all business of this nature is taken care of at home.
- Everyone over the age of two is required to wear a mask at all times. Masks must be worn correctly over both the nose and mouth and secured under the chin. (Those ministering on the platform are allowed to remove their masks but must maintain 10 feet distance from the first row).
- At the close of the service we are asking that all those in attendance leave through the double glass doors between the sound booth and the nursery. Unfortunately, for the time being we will be unable to congregate in the Palm Court.

All those who desire to attend are to inform Ruth Matsuura how many are in your family group via the embedded [Google Doc](#) or through e-mail (info@kapahulubible.org). This will help us plan for maximum seating while maintaining the proper social distancing.

We are working on making a video of these procedures and protocol to further demonstrate and explain these guidelines. This will be made available to you via email and the church's website by the end of this week.

I want to take a moment to commend you for honoring Jesus through your giving, your engagement and your consistent prayer. Many churches have experienced severe financial shortfalls as they have suspended in-person worship services. Whereas we have not met our year-to-date budget numbers, because of your generosity and stewardship, that has not been the case at Kapahulu Bible. You have been wonderfully faithful in giving through electronic means as well as through the mail. Our online attendance has also been very strong. On average there are 275 views of our online services each week. That number does not include families like my own who have four individuals watching one device. I am so grateful to God for a congregation that is so caring, generous and faithful!

One last encouragement before I close: I know that there will be several inconveniences going forward; but please nurture the same mindset that the Lord has been teaching me during this season. *"In humility value others above yourselves, not looking to your own interests but each of you to the interests of the others"* (Philippians 2:3-4). The inconveniences (even the sufferings) a follower of Christ experiences for the mental, emotional, and physical health of those around them is a testament of our spiritual health and our willingness to have our community experience the light of Jesus through us.

Thank you for praying for our staff, our church, and my family. I look forward to the day when I see you face to face or should I say mask to mask.

In sub-mission,



J Spurling
Lead Pastor