



July 29, 2021

Victorious Greetings VBM Family!

Blessings to each of you. I pray you are experiencing the blessings of God spiritually, physically, and mentally. Thank you for your continued support to the vision. It takes every one of us to move the Kingdom forward. As mentioned, I want to continue to provide updates on our worship gatherings and other pertinent information. The Board of Directors at this time looks to move into **Phase 5** for the ministry.

## **PHASE FIVE: FULL IN-PERSON RETURN TO WORSHIP**

### **In-Person Worship**

- Members and guests are welcome to attend in-person service. No RSVP required.
- **Timeliness is very important.** The doors open at 10am. **Please arrive to service on Sundays by 10:40am** to ensure proper seating. Families are to sit by one another if not involved in a particular group for service. Please do not sit directly behind a person.
- No children's activities (*Reminder: Our children will engage in worship just as they see you engage in worship*). This is a great teaching time for them to be involved and learn from you. We will review children's ministry periodically and progress gradually.
- **We are requesting each member to continue wearing a mask while attending service and social distancing.**
- Our Wednesday night services will remain virtual from home or limited staff and production team for bible study.
- We will hold periodic times of prayer in the sanctuary
- The following will continue upon entry of the building:
  - Use of hand sanitizer
  - Wiping down microphones upon switching
- Public areas and restrooms thoroughly cleaned and sanitized using fogger machine.
- Those who attend in-person services are encouraged to place tithes and offerings in the offering basket. Feel free to have a check (ACH) mailed from your bank free of charge to the church or continue online giving.
- **We have limited social contact from our greeters & ushers and ask individuals to wave or bump elbows in order to greet one another.**
- Limit conversations in the building and do more socialization outdoors (still with masks and proper social distancing)
- It is important that we rotate individuals in different areas serving in order to assure proper social distancing is observed until more people are vaccinated.

### **Vaccinated**

- Although you have been vaccinated be sensitive to others and respect their space.
- People who have been in close contact with someone who has COVID-19 are not

required to quarantine if they have been fully vaccinated.

- If you have been exposed and have symptoms after 5 days, please take a COVID test and wait until you receive a **negative test result** to return to service.
- If you travel **internationally**, please take a COVID test and wait until you receive a **negative test result** before returning to service.

### **Non-Vaccinated/Partially Vaccinated**

- If exposed, remain quarantined according to CDC guidelines for 10-14 days until receiving a **negative test**.
- We advise those who are in the high-risk demographics (underlying medical conditions) and vulnerable individuals to not physically attend service at this time.

### **COVID While Attending Church**

- We realize that we are not able to guarantee at any time we will be 100% safe from someone catching the virus.
- As a ministry, if someone catches COVID during a service we ask that you remain quarantined for 14 days. The administrative office will send out notice to the membership of a positive COVID case at the ministry.
- Due to HIPPA guidelines we are not permitted to share the name unless given permission.

### **Funerals**

The Board of Directors understands that VBM sanctuary will be asked to be utilized for outside funerals. At the time, we are gradually working ourselves back into the building so funerals will only be held for **VBM members** (not family of VBM members). We ask that these services be held at the funeral home or the place of worship where loved ones may have attended. Please be aware we are reviewing month to month. Since the pandemic, we now have to utilize more staff/volunteers to operate a funeral which requires media, music, hospitality and ambassadors. Thank you for your understanding.

Although I highly recommend all individuals to be vaccinated, we understand and remain sensitive to others' concerns. Again, we ask you to seek advice from your physicians. Participation at in-person services events *should not* be contingent on vaccination status, nor should individuals be questioned regarding their vaccination status or asked to produce a vaccine card. As Coronavirus (COVID-19) recommendations change, we will continue to make decisions in the best interest of our church and community. We truly appreciate your understanding during this unprecedented time.

**I celebrate our visionary leader, the late Bishop Marvin. C. Pryor and Evangelist Ruth C. Pryor, along with those who stood alongside them to build such an accommodating facility that provides adequate space for proper seating configurations to allow for increased social distancing.**

Please continue to pray, make memories with your loved ones, and make sure they have a personal relationship with our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

Blessings,

Pastor Chris & VBM Board of Directors