

Greetings in the name of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ,

We are writing to make you aware of some recent developments regarding the COVID-19 virus and its impact on our community and church, and to again ask for your help and flexibility as we work together to respond appropriately and lovingly. As a church family you have been an encouraging example in caring for one another, giving, serving, gathering, and remaining flexible as we respond to changing circumstances and requirements. We're very grateful for your humility, generosity, and service, and it is in that spirit we ask for your help and prayers once again.

As many of you are aware, over the last several weeks there has been an unfortunate and significant increase in the number of cases and people hospitalized with COVID within our community and state. In addition, there has also been a sobering number of people (children and adults) within the IDC family that have contracted the virus over the past two weeks. We ask you to please pray for and care for these members of our body.

In addition, on Friday, August 13 the City of Raleigh issued a proclamation requiring face coverings to be worn by individuals in public and private indoor spaces if they will be in contact with other people of different households. You can read the proclamation by [clicking here](#). After careful review, discussion, and prayer, the elders have concluded this proclamation applies to the church. Therefore, as has been our practice, it is our intent to comply with this new requirement.

Beginning Sunday, August 15th we are taking some additional steps and asking for your understanding and assistance. We recognize these additional measures are inconvenient, and we sincerely hope we will not have to keep them in place for very long. Here are the additional, *temporary* measures we will be taking:

- **If you are attending a worship service, meeting, class or other event *inside* the church building** we humbly ask for you to please wear a mask, provided you are able to do so. As before, there are exceptions for young children, those with medical and other conditions, and for others in specific situations. You can find the details in the proclamation.
 - **The church staff and elders** will lead out in this, and we ask that you join us as we seek to honor the governing authorities the Lord has put in place at this time.
 - This will be especially important for **those serving in childcare, hospitality, and security**. If you are scheduled to serve in one of those roles and are unable to wear a mask please contact summer@idcraleigh.com for Childcare, brett@idcraleigh.com for Hospitality, or michael@idcraleigh.com for Security.
- The **overflow space** in the Community Room will remain available, as will the **livestream** at 9 and 11.
- Lastly, for our **Growth Groups**, we likewise ask that any group meeting in a location under this or a similar ordinance comply with the relevant mask rules and restrictions, in addition to actively attending to the needs of each group.

We are honored and grateful to serve as your pastors. We love this church family and it is in that spirit that we ask for your help and prayers as we--together--endeavor to honor the government, obey our Lord, love and serve our neighbors, and gather together as the body of Christ. We hope and pray these additional measures will be unnecessary in the very near future. We also continue to pray for those impacted by and suffering from the virus, and we pray for unity and boldness for our church as we serve, love, and do life together as a gospel community on mission.

If you have questions or concerns please contact an elder. If you have any needs or prayer requests please contact a deacon, elder, or your growth group leader. We love you and look forward to gathering with you.

Peace and grace,

Elders of Imago Dei Church