

Grace and Peace to You All,

Mary Mannix from August Health sent an email this week outlining our current COVID-19 situation and specifically the situation at the Augusta Medical Center. Mary Mannix also posted a short video on Facebook with the same information. Basically, she is recommending that people stay home if at all possible and avoid large gatherings. The Augusta Medical Center is at capacity, and the COVID-19 positivity rate is over 30%.

With this increased threat, I believe we need to take steps to protect ourselves and our loved ones in the weeks ahead.

First, if you chose not to receive a vaccine, please reconsider. The vaccine is our first line of defense against a serious infection. If you have a compromised immune system, please consider getting the booster shot.

Second, I am recommending that everyone stay home this Sunday, 9/26/21, and join us online at 11:00 am for a live stream of our worship service. I am canceling the 8:30 am service. We will have an 11:00 am in-person worship service for those who wish to attend, but recommend that you all stay home this week. The choir will not sing this Sunday, and we will be trimming the order of worship to the bare bones.

Third, I recommend that all Sunday School classes be held through Zoom.

It breaks my heart to ask you to stay home, but I believe we should all do what we can to stop the spread of this pandemic. Stay home. Hunker down. Be safe. This current situation will pass, and things will get better.

We will evaluate the situation on a week to week basis.

So, to recap:

Sunday, September 26, 2021

8:30 am Worship Service canceled.

Sunday School – I am recommending that all Sunday School classes be held via Zoom.

11:00 am Worship Service in-person and livestream options available, but I am recommending that everyone stay home and join in via livestream (with the exception of the preacher and pianist).

Sunday, October 3, 2021

To be determined. Another email will be sent next week about this date.

Pastor Joe Shoop

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