

We are thankful to God that so far very few from our congregation have been affected by the coronavirus, and none have died or suffered longterm effects. We are appreciative that almost everyone has taken seriously the measures we requested for our assemblies of wearing face masks, maintaining appropriate distancing, and confining closer fellowship to the outdoors, not the auditorium or lobby.

In addition we want to address the question of those who have tested positive, had symptoms, or had close contact with somebody with COVID-19. We make the following requests about returning to the Sunday assembly in these cases in light of current CDC recommendations. In all cases, if a healthcare provider is involved or available, you should follow that person's advice and should also avail yourself of available testing. A negative test at or near the ending of the wait time adds a level of confidence.

(1) If you think or know you had COVID-19, then please wait at least 10 days since the symptoms first appeared, and at least 3 days after symptoms, including fever, disappeared.

(2) If you have tested positive for COVID-19, but had no symptoms, wait 10 symptom-free days before returning. Depending on availability it would be good to be retested with a negative result.

(3) If you have had close contact with somebody that has COVID-19, or developed it shortly after contact with you, you should quarantine yourself at home for 14 days after exposure.

In all cases someone with a weakened immune system might need to extend the waiting time, and a negative test before return would be even more desirable in these cases.