

Coronavirus Announcement

Covid-19 cases and hospitalizations have increased statewide. In response, Governor Ricketts and the State of Nebraska yesterday made changes to the statewide Directed Health Measures (DHMs) that go into effect Wednesday morning. The decisions of our governing authorities cause us as the elder board of Imperial Berean to make some difficult decisions for our church.

As elders, we do not like cancelling services. But we do feel it is best for us as a church to honor and obey our governing authorities. We do hope also to slow the spread of this virus and protect our most vulnerable.

The changes to the DHMs basically begin with this statement, “**Six (6) feet of separation** between parties is required in all instances for the following: gyms/fitness centers, health spas, restaurants, bars, gentlemen and bottle clubs, weddings, funerals, indoor gatherings, and churches/places of worship.” These DHMs will be in effect through November 30.

Therefore, beginning Wednesday, November 11, Imperial Berean will make the following changes:

- 1.) Awana is cancelled Nov. 11 and 18. (There was already no Awana scheduled for the 25th due to Thanksgiving break.) We do not feel we are capable of complying with the social distancing mandate while holding Awana.
- 2.) Youth Group (grades 7-12) will continue as they have. Especially with no Awana taking place, Youth Group will have plenty of space to comply with the DHMs.
- 3.) Sunday Mornings:
 - a.) The nursery will be closed for both Sunday School and church.
 - b.) Sunday school will take place otherwise. We will move adult Sunday School into the sanctuary. We will move K-1 and 2-3 classes across the hall into the large classrooms. This should allow everyone to comply with the social distancing directives.
 - c.) We will continue with one worship service. We ask that family groups stay together and distance themselves by 6’ from neighboring family groups. We will add seats in the fellowship hall and in the Awana room as needed.
 - d.) Services will continue to be streamed via Facebook.

These changes will be in effect through the end of November. We will be thinking about ways to have Awana, even in some modified form, beginning December 2, even if the state extends these DHMs. We will make another announcement prior to that date.

Thank you for bearing with us during this time. Christ is still on His throne! We continue to trust and worship Him!

His and yours,

The Elders