



RIVERSIDE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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Friends,

At its regularly scheduled meeting on June 17, the Session took action on recommendations from the In-Person Task Force. The recommendations took several factors into account:

1. An advisory opinion from the Presbytery of Chicago Coordinating Commission (a group similar to the Session for the Presbytery) suggesting that the earliest congregations should consider returning to in-person worship is August 30.
2. RPC has much lower attendance numbers during the summer months.
3. Most importantly, the results from the survey that over 59 of you filled out. The survey results showed an overwhelming number of those who responded wished to continue worshipping online until it was safer to return to in-person worship.

Based on those factors, the Session has:

- Suspended in-person worship through August 30.
- Decided to keep the entire building (including the gym) closed to all gatherings through August 30. The only folks allowed in the church building are staff and stockers for the Little Food Pantry.
- Postpone the Strawberry Social scheduled for July 15 until September 16.

These are hard decisions to make. I, for one, am anxious to have life return to a semblance of normal. But even more, I want us all to stay safe and healthy. Please know that these new dates are all subject to review, and both the Session and In-Person Task Force continue to monitor recommendations from denominational leaders and health experts. Along with the Session, I want to thank you for your commitment to RPC. This difficult time has shown how strong we are as a congregation.

I look forward to “seeing” all of you on Sunday.

Peace,
Dale