

Dear Messiah family,

As promised, your Church Council has continued to monitor the community Covid levels. We have stayed in the "low category" since we announced the council's plans to restore various church and worship activities and our plan for if numbers ever went back up again.

We are sorry to say that, as of the last CDC/VDH update, Hanover County has gone back to "Medium" (between 10-20% levels). Based on the plan we approved and presented, this means that we will limit some worship activities for the time being. Specifically, that means that we will suspend the extra liturgical singing for the time being, and we will once again have procession Communion, as opposed to receiving at the rail. We also encourage (though are not requiring) everyone to wear masks once again.

If levels go above 20%, masks will be required and further steps taken as needed. If levels drop back below 10% again, we will wait two weeks before once again bringing back Communion at the rail and liturgical singing. Keep in mind that the community numbers being used by VDH and the CDC incorporate many factors, including positivity rates, hospitalizations, deaths, and vaccine rates. And also remember that all of this is to protect the most vulnerable among us, and we do so with love in our hearts.

Thank you for your cooperation and understanding. Peace be with us, and may God continue to guide us forward as we make our way through this lingering pandemic.

Peace,

Pastor Ryan and the Messiah Church Council