



GRACE STREET FELLOWSHIP

Dear Church Family,

WE'RE BACK!

After much prayer, guidance and preparation, we are thrilled to be returning to worship on our campus, and we pray you'll be able to join us in the sanctuary at **10:55 a.m. on Sunday, June 7th**.

As excited as we are about gathering again with our church family, we are also being very cautious about making this a safe and enjoyable environment for everyone.

If you have experienced any COVID-19-related symptoms in the last two weeks; if you have compromising health issues; or if you're not quite ready to venture out, please join us for the continued broadcast on **Facebook Live** from the comfort of your home. **Know that our church family loves you, and we want to protect you!**

For the safety and well-being of those joining us on campus, we will strategically seat attendees in the worship areas, which will, therefore, greatly limit the number of people in the sanctuary, and we will provide overflow rooms across the campus should they be necessary.

Our Bible study fellowships (Sunday Schools) will begin meeting in person again on **Sunday, June 14th**, at 9:30 a.m., one week past our grand opening. Classroom seating will be six feet apart for each class.

For more detailed information about our preparations, please read the information on the **back of this letter**. And, as you have questions or concerns, please don't hesitate to contact me, or any church leader. Your voice matters to God, and to us. I, or any of our leaders, and staff are always only a phone call, or an e-mail away.

Thank you for being who you are, the beautiful body Christ, and always an “avenue of grace” for so many.

I can't wait to be with you, and to worship the Lord together again in our church home

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "James E. Burgin".

*Dr. Jim Burgin, Pastor
Grace Street Fellowship
1516 W. Pioneer Pkwy.
Arlington, TX 76013
Phone: 817-704-6143
E-Mail: jim@missionarlington.org*

What can I expect upon my return to Grace Street?

- **No JUDGEMENT ZONE** – We are family, and as such, we respect each other's differences, and love each other no matter what. If you aren't ready to come back yet, we love and respect you. If you think we should have started back weeks ago, we love and respect you. We will be careful with our words and with each other as all of us follow the call of Christ.
- **A LITE TOUCH** – We understand that this is a hard subject, and that these are heavy days, so while we would never make light of these circumstances, we also want to smile and to laugh together, and you will see some indications of that around the campus and in our worship.
- **A SAFE SPACE** – We have taken extra care to clean & disinfect the building from top to bottom in more ways than we can communicate here, and we will continue to do so for some time. We will have hand sanitizers provided throughout the building and upon entry.
- **SOCIAL DISTANCING** – (six-foot requirement)
 1. The sanctuary, classrooms, and hallways have been configured to allow six feet of separation; In the sanctuary, for worship, families may still sit together on a pew.
 2. We will encourage you to greet each other with waves and spiritual high-fives for a while, instead of our normal handshakes and hugs. We know this is difficult, but it is very important that each of us respect the personal space needs of others. Please love well, but keep your distance.
 3. We will provide an orderly exit strategy for worshippers at the conclusion of morning worship. You can congregate outside the church if you are comfortable to do so in the open air.
 4. Masks and gloves are not required, but should you desire to wear protective equipment, please do so. If wearing masks and gloves makes you uncomfortable, then you are free to come without them.
- **TOUCHLESS ENVIRONMENT** - There will be four entrances to the church, and ushers at each entrance to hold the door open, to welcome you, and to offer you hand-sanitizer. Bibles, pencils, notepads, sermon notes, and all other informational items have been removed. All internal doors will remain open, and drinking fountains will be turned off. When we take the Lord's Supper together again, the elements will be placed at the sanctuary entrances in sealed plastic cups.
- **SAFE USHERS & GREETERS (FIRST IMPRESSIONS TEAM)**

Those who serve you on any given Sunday, will be wearing masks and gloves, and their temperature will be checked by a registered nurse prior to their service on that day. We are grateful for a team of people willing to go the extra mile to make sure everyone who attends feels safe.
- **LOTS OF LOVE AND GRACE** – we will worship our Lord in spirit and truth. We will do business with the Lord about our own spiritual journey. We will love each other in amazing ways, even while socially separated, and we will leave the campus more committed to serving him than ever before.

LET'S REMEMBER TO "HOLD EACH OTHER CLOSE" IN THESE DAYS

1. Ephesians 4:3 says that we are to "be completely humble and gentle; patient, bearing with one another in love" and to make "every effort to keep the unity of the Spirit through the bond of peace."
2. Philippians 2:1-3 encourages us to be "like-minded, having the same love, being united in spirit and purpose." We are to "look not only to our own interests, but also to the interests of others."