

May 19, 2020

Hi ECOB Family,

I wish to thank all of you for your patience and understanding during a long and difficult time. Your patience has been an inspiration and your grace has reflected the grace and love of God. We are family and we have encouraged, supported, and walked with one another during this time.

I want to thank each of you for your willingness to fill out the survey from last week. Whether through snail mail or online, we have had so many people respond with their thoughts and ideas about how to move forward as a congregation. Your wisdom and voice have been heard and we are praying through the input we have received and how we are to move forward in Jesus!

With that shared, please look below, and connect with various touch points in our congregation.

Here is what has happened and what is coming up!

1. Last week May 11-17
  - a. Operations
    - i. Construction continues. The waiver process is no longer needed. We are now mandated to be wearing masks when walking through the building – we have been complying with this order starting Monday April 20. In addition, no one is allowed into construction areas without a hard hat. We want to be sure that we honor what AMES has told us in this way. Please do not come to the building and walk around without a member of the building team.
      1. Offices – final touchups
      2. Life Group Rooms – final touchups
      3. Heritage Room – waiting on cabinets, and sofa
      4. Sanctuary – finalizing media needs and touchups
      5. Student Space – final touchups
      6. Children’s Center – final touchups
      7. Community Room (Fellowship Hall) – 10%
      8. Multi-Purpose Room (Gym) – 70%
      9. Kitchen – not started
      10. New Bathrooms – not started
      11. Entrance – 50%
2. This coming week May 18-24
  - a. CONGREGATION WIDE
    - i. What: Community Prayer Time
      1. Date/Time: May 20, 2020 08:00 PM
      2. Zoom Information: <https://zoom.us/j/163473464>
      3. Call In: 1 646 558 8656 - Meeting ID: 163 473 464
    - ii. What ECOB LIVE WORSHIP
      1. Date/Time: May 24, 2020
        - a. Worship – 10AM
          - i. ECOB Website: [www.ecob.church](http://www.ecob.church)
          - ii. FB LIVE: <https://www.facebook.com/ephatacob/>
          - iii. Vimeo - <https://vimeo.com/user65628481>
          - iv. YouTube - <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCNaNiDBGKmkQ4v9-W6ysqYA>
  - b. KIDMIN – please connect with KidMin through their Facebook Page
  - c. Student Ministry – please connect with our Student Ministries through their Facebook Page
  - d. Young Adult Ministry – please connect with our young adult ministries through their Facebook Page
3. OTHER ITEMS
  - a. Tithes and Offerings

- i. Thank you so much for keeping the ministries and mission of Jesus alive and well at ECOB. Your missionaries (staff) are working hard to maintain the connections we have to one another each week and we will continue to do so. Remember, you can go to [www.ecob.church](http://www.ecob.church) and click on the “GIVE” link to use PushPay or you may mail in your tithe.
- b. Office Opening!
  - i. Currently the office is open on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 9am-noon. If you must come in, please follow the guidelines below.
    - 1. Parking: Please park in the front lot – this is the new office entrance and will be the only entrance you will be able to use. The driveway to the office entrance is off Crescent Ave.
    - 2. You must be wearing a mask to enter the building, even if it is for a second.
    - 3. You will not be allowed to go anywhere else in the building but the office wing. Please do not come and “snoop” around.
    - 4. If you wish to see staff, you may do so, but only by APPOINTMENT.
    - 5. If you wish to come and drop off your tithes and offerings, you may do so during that time or you may mail them to 201 Crescent Ave Ephrata, PA 17522.
- c. ECOB Re-Gathering for Worship
  - i. WHEN - The Leadership Team is unanimous that it is time to re-gather again for “in person” worship. We anticipate doing so on June 7<sup>th</sup>; however, this date is not finalized and will depend on several circumstances. We will make sure to inform the congregation when we get closer to that date or when the circumstances allow us to finalize that direction. We will have 3 on site services (830 – classic, 10 – contemporary, 1130 – contemporary) and 2 online options (830 – classic, 10 – contemporary).
  - ii. HOW – We will begin with 50 people/worship. We are working out the details of how those people will be determined. It is most likely that we will do some sort of rolling sign up where everyone who wishes to come to worship will sign up (sharing preferences), and from that list we will rotate through so that over a couple of weeks, each person who wishes to attend will be able to.
  - iii. MITIGATION – while many want to know what the ECOB mitigation techniques will look like, we have yet to land on a couple of key items. What I can share is that there will be a number of things that we will employ to safely be able to meet during this time. Those details will hopefully be coming out next week. Please stay tuned.
  - iv. QUESTIONS/CONCERNS/THOUGHTS – please feel free to contact me if you have any questions about re-gathering.

If you have any concerns or questions, please feel free to contact me directly at [brian@ecob.church](mailto:brian@ecob.church). In the meantime, keep safe, stay sane.

Blessings,  
Pastor Brian