



# *The River*

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER | SEPTEMBER 2020

Greetings South River,

I know how tired everyone is of National & State COVID 19 yo-yo. It started with rumors in late January. Became personal in March when we were forced to move to Online Worship only as everybody was told to maintain distance and don't go anywhere except for emergencies and necessary purchases. In June we started Drive-In worship. Now we have moved to having 2 services In-Person Inside Worship at 9 AM in addition to the ongoing 10 AM Drive-In Worship.

As I look back and think how 2020 has unfolded; it is nothing anybody would have thought about as 2019 ended and 2020 began. We as a church have faced some unusual challenges. We have sought to improve our Facebook broadcast, we have had changes to our music ministry program, and how to have a distanced Drive in Worship. We have had numerous discussions on how to clean & disinfect the church as well as what will worship look like when we come back inside.

Through all of this I applaud the leadership, volunteers, and members of South River for all of your grace, insight, and patience each of you have demonstrated.

We have moved forward, but I still ask everyone to maintain social distancing and to wear masks when out and about.

I'm also asking everyone to check with other members keeping them updated on the church's ministries and events, not to mention it shows them that the overall church still cares for them. Every person is important. I'm afraid that so many churches will see that a lot of people will have gotten in the habit of not coming to church. If we don't check on them then they can give the impression that we don't care about them. So let's make sure that we keep our loving spirit and share that with others.

We are entering the Charge Conference season. This means that we be looking at leadership and committee member make-up/changes. We want to hear from new voices and faces. We will be looking at our giving and our budget. What do you really like about the what and how we do things? Where should we make some changes or try new things? Every voice and opinion matters. It has been said that, "We are to be the change, that we want to see."

COVID isn't going away anytime soon. But we are still working for the glory of building the Kingdom of God. May your focus remain steadfast on Jesus and His peace and presence fill you.

Peace and Blessings

AJ