

Week of May 17, 2021

Announcement

The latest CDC recommendations for those who are vaccinated are incredibly hopeful. So far, the results of our congregational survey indicate that the vast majority of those who have responded are fully vaccinated as well. This is very encouraging about the future possibilities for our community of faith to feel comfortable gathering together in familiar ways.

At the same time, our decisions as a church and individual Christ-followers should always be made with more than our own conditions and comfort in mind. They should be made out of concern for how our actions will impact the most vulnerable among us. What can I do that is most loving of my neighbor?

We know that there are some in our community of faith who are unable to get vaccinated for legitimate medical reasons. Others may be choosing not to get vaccinated at this time. Vaccines are still not available for the youngest in our community. We must continue to ensure that our policies and procedures protect those individuals as the COVID-19 virus and variants prove to be an ongoing threat.

We are incredibly grateful for the way that you have worked as a congregation to ensure that everyone can feel safe to gather with us. Until we have received more information about the vaccinated population in our church, and until we have a greater understanding of how any change in our procedures will impact the most vulnerable among us, we will continue to ask you to follow our current COVID-19 procedures when gathering for worship and other activities. Please continue to wear a mask, to register and sit in your assigned seats for worship, and to utilize the hand sanitizing stations as you enter the sanctuary. Please also continue to fill out our anonymous and confidential survey to share your vaccination plans with us. Our teams will continue to make decisions and adjustments to our protocols with everyone's best interest in mind, especially the most vulnerable among us. We will do everything we can to effectively communicate with you when adjustments are made so that you will know what to expect when you are with us.

If you still have questions about the safety and effectiveness of the vaccines for you, please consult your doctor. Please consider what actions you can take to ensure the safety and well-being of yourself and all of those around you. Thank you for continuing to care for one another, and for being the church we

need. We look to the future with faith and hope.

Congregational Survey



CONGREGATIONAL SURVEY

As we continue to adapt our congregational gathering procedures, it will be helpful to know your plans to receive the COVID-19 vaccine.

Your feedback is anonymous, confidential, and will be used to consider what adjustments to our COVID-19 protocols might be beneficial to everyone.

Thank you for your response.

SURVEY LINK

May Mission Focus



During the month of May, we are collecting non-perishable food items for the Samaritan House. The Samaritan House relies on volunteers and donations to provide food to those in need in the Greenville area. They serve over 150 families 3 times a month.

We will have donation boxes in the narthex throughout May. Donations can also be dropped off in the church office.

Suggested Items:
Canned fruit
Canned vegetables
Canned or dried beans and peas
Canned soup, chili, stew
Hamburger Helper
Macaroni and Cheese Pasta (boxes or bags)
Rice (boxes or bags)
Low-sugar cereals and oatmeal
Peanut butter
Canned meats (tuna, chicken, salmon)
Fruit juice (canned, plastic or boxes)

Thank you!!



The Samaritan House needs volunteers!

They are looking for volunteers on Tuesday mornings to assist with unloading the donations truck. It would be especially helpful to have volunteers on a monthly rotation. You

would be welcome to help every week if you have the time from 9:00 a.m. until around 10:00 a.m. You must be able to lift 50lb cases of food.

Contact Teresa Brady (864-918-7095) for more details and to schedule your opportunity to volunteer.

Graduate Recognition



If you or someone in your family is graduating from high school or college, please let us know so that we may recognize them during worship on Sunday, May 23.

We would also like to celebrate our graduates the week leading up to the 23rd on our Facebook page. Please send a picture of your graduate with a brief write up (graduate's name, school, degree, future plans, if any, etc.) We will highlight a different graduate each day and hope to get a group picture of them on Sunday, May 23rd to be shared the following week. Please send this information and the picture to Laura at lwalker@arbc.com.

Family Ministry News



As we prepare for offering Worship Care for 2 and under, we are in need of a few items to help prepare a new room close to the sanctuary.

We need the following donated items:

a clean/bright/child-friendly rug
2 changing tables
2 pack-n-plays
cheerful nursery wall art
a bouncy seat
etc.

If you have any of these items that you would like to donate, please let Bridget know. Monetary donations can also be made on our website (<u>arbc.com/give</u>) to the fund 'Children's Ministry'

We will also need volunteers!

If you would like to help one Sunday a month, please contact Bridget.

Worship Care volunteers will need to be vaccinated.

Thank you!!



This Summer we will be hosting 3 monthly Family Ministry Summer Series in place of Vacation Bible School. Each month we will gather for fun, discipleship, and fellowship. This event will be held outdoors (weather permitting) and will last from 4 PM - 6 PM. We will conclude each gathering with an outdoor picnic.

We are looking for volunteers to help with crafts, games, missions for preschool and elementary children. We are also looking for volunteers to help with our toddlers and younger. Please consider volunteering for one or all of these gatherings as we help our children have some fun and grow in their faith. We need lots of volunteers to make this a success.

Sunday, June 27th Sunday, July 18th Sunday, August 29th

Families, save the dates and invite your friends!

Worship



Here is the link to full video of our service from Sunday, May 16: https://youtu.be/tE0F7C2iTA8

> Here is the link to Matt's sermon: https://youtu.be/1DZ0usbLftU

In-Person Worship Registration http://arbc.com/worship-registration/



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