

Dear church,

The leadership believes that transparency during this difficult time of Coronavirus allows for you to make individual decisions about your own personal situation and tolerance for the risk of gathering together. In that vein, we want to inform you that there has been an individual in our building who has come down with symptoms that are consistent with Coronavirus...

1) What happened?

The church leadership was notified on July 13 by an individual that they had been in the building on July 7 and then – several days later – started to have symptoms consistent with Coronavirus. This individual took a Coronavirus test on the same day they informed us and is awaiting results. We want to emphasize that this person was not present at the worship service on July 12. As well, the leadership wants to applaud this individual on their love for others in making us aware of their situation so that we can take the appropriate steps – what a Christ-like example of how any of us should respond if we find ourselves in a similar situation!

2) What is the church doing about it?

Out of an abundance of caution, we have cancelled all mid-week events that were scheduled for July 13-18, and coordinated with Nueva Vida for them to do the same.

Our regular cleaning procedures were followed last week, which equates to at least two disinfections between when this person was in the building and our Sunday morning service.

3) What's next?

The church leadership urges all of us to be in prayer for this individual. We recognize that it is hard to pray for somebody without knowing who they are, but respecting their privacy and dignity is the loving thing to do. If they ask the church for detailed prayer, we will pass that on.

We are waiting to hear back on this person's test result and will make an announcement no later than noon on Friday, July 17. If it is negative, then we will continue with our schedule as planned, starting with the July 19 in-person worship service. If the test comes back positive or if we have not received results by noon on Friday, then we will hold the July 19 worship service in an online-only format. Assuming we are not made aware of any additional potential cases within our congregation, we would then resume our regular schedule of Bible studies and worship services from July 21 onward (which equates to 14 days since the potential exposure).

As always, you will need to decide on your comfort level with this situation. Even if the church holds in-person services on July 19, you are free to stay home and enjoy the service online if you would feel more comfortable that way.

Finally, going forward we will evaluate each situation based on its own details, current CDC / health department recommendations, and also taking into account lessons learned from this and any additional situations as we respond to them. As always, we'll communicate as needed.

Pastor Kevin, on behalf of the church leadership