

Subject: Announcement for NPC

Date: July 21st, 2020

Dear Members and Friends of Newton Presbyterian Church,

The Session met on Tuesday and discussed a variety of topics. While a "Session Happenings" will be coming out soon, the Session felt it important to notify the congregation that the date for face to face worship or other onsite programming has been pushed back to at least October 1st.

There are many reasons for this. First, Boston is a college town, and starting onsite programming just as thousands of students arrive in town from across the nation and even the world seemed unwise. While the students may be in one of the safest population groups for getting a bad case of the coronavirus, they can be carriers. Second, the numbers across the United States are going the wrong direction. Session considers not only what the numbers are on a particular day, but where they are trending. Finally, we wanted to err on the side of caution.

We recognize that people want to worship in person. Your Session shares that desire. But it did not seem prudent to be preparing for regular in person worship in early September. As always, we wish to hear from the congregation. Please do not hesitate to let us know your thoughts and feelings on this or any other matter. Finally, we ask for your prayers as the Session seeks to lead our church through this unprecedented time of challenge.

In Christ's Mercy,

RW

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