

# CHRIST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Connecting people to Jesus so that lives, families, and community can be restored.

**December 3, 2020**

Dear Christ United Family:

On Wednesday December 2nd our state experienced a record number of new Coronavirus cases for a single day. Because of the surging numbers in recent weeks, Dr. Thomas Dobbs of the Mississippi State Department of Health yesterday asked people to avoid groups for the next two weeks – including worship services. After Dr. Dobbs' statement, the Mississippi United Methodist Conference Pandemic Task Force released their own statement urging congregations to suspend in-person worship for now.



**Bob Rambo**  
Lead Pastor

After consultation with members of our own medical community, we are suspending in-person worship at Christ United for Sundays December 6th and 13th. We will continue to offer online worship – 9:00am Bridge and 11:00am Traditions. But for these two Sundays – we're asking you to stay home, stay safe, and worship with us by live-streaming or on Facebook Live. We are also suspending all campus events and activities until further notice. We will carefully monitor the situation and will lengthen the in-person worship suspension if necessary.

We are all exhausted and frustrated from dealing with COVID-19. We are hoping and praying that we can lift this suspension in time for Christmas week (December 20). The good news is that vaccines are going to be available in 2021. I am very hopeful that next year will see a huge improvement in our situation.

But for now, we're at a critical moment. This is a moment that calls for all of us to work together in doing the simple things – wear masks, practice social distancing, avoid groups – that can slow the transmission of the virus.

In the meantime, some of our staff will continue to work from our offices. We are available if you need pastoral care. We're here to help you through this crisis.

In the Letter to the Galatians 6:9, the Apostle Paul writes: Let us not become weary in doing good, for at the proper time we will reap a harvest if we do not give up. Let's "do good" by taking appropriate precautions without being afraid. Let's "do good" by helping each other through this moment.

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Bob Rambo".

Bob Rambo, Lead Pastor

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