



TUESDAY, SEPT. 28

Dear MBC Family -

We are extremely excited about all that God is doing in our church family as we have re-started ministries this fall. Church Groups, Communities, and Classes are gathering together, people are getting connected through MBC Connect, and all sorts of ministries to kids, students, young adults, individuals and families with special needs, and more are in full swing. Every week we're working in locations around our city to meet needs and share Christ, and the same is happening around the world through members and partners in places where the gospel hasn't gone. We've started a new churchwide series in the Gospel of Mark focused on beholding Jesus every week together, and on just the first Sunday of this series, over 100 people took initial steps to be baptized as a follower of Jesus! If you want any information on how to get involved in any of the above, please go to mcleanbible.org/getconnected.

Our Congregational Meetings provide opportunities to share more in-depth updates on various things God is doing in and through the church, and we have been planning to host one this Wednesday, September 29th. However, we regret to inform you that we have made a difficult decision to host this Congregational Meeting online instead of in person.

Based upon God's clear instructions to us in 1 Corinthians 14 (which we studied together just a couple of months ago), we place a high value on any and every gathering of our church being marked by peace, order, unity, and safety so that the church is built up and people without Christ see a clear picture of God's character in us. One of the many ways we aim to honor these instructions in God's Word is through our First Response Team comprised of security and medical professionals who serve our church family when we gather together. Our First Response Team recently had an appreciation dinner for a retired D.C. police officer of 25 years who has selflessly served on this team at our church but is now moving to another state. This dinner in his honor was attended by various elders and staff leaders and their families, and one of the participants tested positive for COVID soon after the dinner. Unfortunately, several leaders on our security team as of early this week have either tested positive with COVID or need to quarantine, making them unavailable for this Wednesday night's meeting. In light of disruptions at our most recent Congregational Meetings, we believe it would be unwise to have this Congregational Meeting in person without full support from our First Response Team.

Based on the above realities, and in light of our church constitution's instructions about hosting a Congregational Meeting in September, we have made the difficult decision to move this Congregational Meeting online. We obviously wish that we could gather in person for this meeting, and we look forward to holding future Congregational Meetings in person. In the meantime, we invite you to be a part of this Congregational Meeting by going to mcleanbible.org/congregationalmeeting at 7:30 p.m. this Wednesday, September 29th. We are really looking forward to sharing exciting updates about all the ways God is working in and through our church during these days as we focus on Him and spreading His gospel (the greatest news in the world!) to as many people as possible in our city and around the world.

Amidst the many things going on in your life today, we pray for God's grace, strength, joy, and peace to be yours according to His glorious riches in Christ Jesus.

Love in Christ,

MBC Elders