

## **PUBLIC STATEMENT FROM THE ELDERS OF THE NORTH JACKSON CHURCH OF CHRIST REGARDING PUBLIC ASSEMBLIES**

COVID-19 has had a terrible impact on our communities. Like every other congregation, the North Jackson Church of Christ has worked very hard to balance the health concerns of our members, respect for governmental authority, strife between political and social opinions, and maintaining our integrity to divine obligations within confines of expediency.

We are fully aware that some are more concerned about this virus than others. Likewise, we are also aware that some are not as concerned because they see no imminent threat to their own health. Our own experience has taught us two things we are firmly convinced of:

- that COVID-19 is a highly contagious disease
- the elderly and those with underlying health conditions are especially vulnerable to severe outcomes.

Given these current conditions, the elders wanted to **reemphasize the previously adopted COVID-19 guidelines** for all public assemblies at the North Jackson church of Christ.

### **GUIDELINES @NJ**

- We strongly encourage all in attendance to wear facial coverings at all times when entering or leaving the building and auditorium until seated, as well as any time you are unable to maintain 6 feet of physical distance from others.
- Pews are marked to maintain physical distance between families.
- Please limit contact within 6 feet in hallways, aisles and the foyer.
- Respect others concerns.
- Do not attend assemblies if:
  - You have tested positive for COVID-19
  - You are experiencing any cold-like symptoms, that could very well be COVID-19 symptoms, that could potentially infect an older, vulnerable person.
  - You have been in CLOSE CONTACT<sup>1</sup> with someone who has tested positive for COVID-19 or has cold-like symptoms but has chosen not to get tested for COVID-19 within the time frames established by the CDC<sup>2</sup>.

### **Other Assemblies at the North Jackson church of Christ**

- **Memorial Visitation/Funerals:**
  - Please keep in mind that in times of grief, it is natural to want to demonstrate affection and encouragement by hugging or close contact. Please be mindful of others, especially those who are older and more vulnerable to the COVID-19 disease and please continue to adhere to these guidelines.
- **Receptions, Showers, Weddings, i.e.:**
  - When attending other assemblies of great joy and happiness, it is also natural to want to share the same. We encourage you to follow these same guidelines.

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<sup>1</sup> Close Contact – 6 feet from someone who has tested positive for COVID-19 OR is experiencing symptoms consistent with COVID-19 for 15 minutes.

<sup>2</sup> CDC imposes a 14-day period of isolation after close contact exposure. Please see CDC website for definitions of CLOSE CONTACT and possible options for reduced isolation period.