

March 8, 2021

MDPC Friends,

On March 2, 2021, Governor Greg Abbott announced that the COVID-19 mask mandate would be lifted, effective March 10, 2021. Since that announcement, many people have asked what MDPC's position is on the matter.

We have consulted with several medical experts within MDPC, and while we all would love to eliminate the need for masks and social distancing, the counsel we've received is that it is prudent to continuing wearing masks, for the time being, while at MDPC for worship services and other ministries. We hope and pray the need for these measures will soon cease, but until we reach a point of relative safety regarding COVID-19, we will continue to practice safety protocols like all the Houston hospitals, School Districts, and most businesses and restaurants.

This means MDPC's staff will continue to wear masks when on campus. We will also strongly urge people attending worship services and/or other ministries to do likewise. We understand there are different opinions on the issue of wearing masks, but we feel it is our duty to go the extra mile to do what we can to protect those who may be vulnerable and susceptible to infection. These measures give us the best chance to have more people join us safely in person, given that Houston currently has all the variant strains of COVID-19.

We have been pleased to see the care and safety the MDPC community has demonstrated, and to realize the importance Christian community plays as a vital part of our lives. We are encouraged by the downward trend of positive cases in Texas, but we must remain vigilant in our corporate effort to continue that downward trend.

We trust God completely and know that God's timing is perfect. Thanks for your patience, understanding, and partnership in this most unusual chapter of MDPC's history.

In Christ's Service Together,

Alf Halvorson, Senior Pastor

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Dave Steane, Executive Pastor