

June 11, 2020

Dear EBF,

I will give You thanks in the great congregation; I will praise You among a mighty throng.

–Psalm 35:18

Now that Lane County has entered Phase Two of the Governor’s directives for reopening, the elders are very pleased to extend opportunities for expanded gatherings.

On Sunday, **June 21st, 2020, at 10:30AM**, we will be gathering for a time of gratitude and worship with singing, prayer, and fellowship. We will do this **outdoors** in the backyard of EBF. In order to keep our gathering brief, we will meet for one hour, and Pastor Richard will not be preaching/teaching at this gathering. He will continue to post his weekly sermons for online viewing. These sermons will be posted by noon on the previous Saturday for viewing, if desired. Therefore, you can find the sermon and a selections of songs and prayers on the church YouTube channel this Saturday, as well as **on June 20th** and subsequent Saturdays. They can be found at www.youtube.com/channel/UCMEgPIFGbt2D6P-m6-0CE1A/, or by searching for “Emerald Bible Fellowship” on YouTube or by accessing the audio at www.emerald bible.com/sermons .

We also want to strongly recommend wearing masks outdoors in order to protect one another and our neighbors who may join our gathering. We believe that wearing masks would show them that we care about their concerns, too. However, we also believe that meeting outdoors will help disperse breath vapors, and thus we will not *require* people to wear masks outdoors. We are continuing to require a social distancing protocol of six feet of physical separation so that we might sing together safely. In addition, please bring a mask with you, because they are still required inside the building. If you want to use the restroom, then you will need to wear a mask inside.

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There will be round tables available for individual families to utilize. At each table we will provide activities for children. We recognize that children may not fully understand the need for social distancing, so we encourage you all to be patient if a child wanders up to you. Love them well and remind them to return to their family. We strongly encourage you to bring your own lawn chairs or picnic blankets to spread out. There will be a *limited* number of plastic chairs available. Also, consider bringing your umbrellas for rain-or-shine conditions.

As you arrive, after parking, walk around the east side of the church to access the backyard area. There will be directional signs posted. We will have a hand sanitizing table available, but also encourage you to bring your own hand sanitizer as well.

Instructions regarding the use of the building while we gather will be given in person on that Sunday morning. For now, please know that the restrooms on the east wing will be open for use as needed.

Finally, because of this new morning gathering we are discontinuing the Sunday evening gathering as of June 21st (there will still be a Sunday evening gathering on June 14th). Home Fellowship Groups, Men's and Women's Bible studies, and a Young Mom's Bible study continue to meet regularly. So, if you desire to get plugged into these opportunities, or if you would like to begin a different group, then please call and leave a message at the church number (541) 485-2301 or email office@emeraldbible.com.

We encourage everyone that is comfortable with meeting in a setting as described above to come join us. We are grateful that this is another step forward to whatever the new normal may look like. We are looking forward to worshipping together with you all once again!

Sincerely,

The elders of EBF

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