



## 5/08/2020 Faith Friday Conference Call

### **Q&A with Director Michele Reynolds**

*Governor's Office of Faith-Based and Community Initiatives*

- **Where do we find the summary of previous Faith Friday Calls?**
  - [www.ccv.org/josephcouncil/call-to-prayer/](http://www.ccv.org/josephcouncil/call-to-prayer/)
  
- **When will the libraries be re-opened?**
  - There is an advisory group that the governor announced that is looking into this. We don't have a date right now but anticipate hearing an announcement on this very soon.
  
- **What are the VBS guidelines?**
  - We recommend following guidelines established by the Department of Job and Family Services for providing child care services. We fully anticipate the governor making an announcement about summer camps in the coming weeks so please stay tuned.
  
- **What is the guidance for church camps?** *Daily we hear of more camps closing for the summer. The spiritual loss is huge. The financial impact of closing will bankrupt many camps. Scores of people will lose their jobs and summer jobs. Camps are businesses and ministries that should be opened with other businesses. Camps can and will follow health guidelines if given the opportunity.*
  - The administration is currently looking into this matter as something for kids to do in the summer. We understand the great economic impact that not having a place for kids to go has on camps and we also understand that kids truly love these things and look forwards to going to summer camp.
  
- **If a nursing facility has stayed free of COVID-19, is there any discussion of one family visiting their relative with mask and gloves? In many cases, severe depression has been a result of the isolation in the elderly communities.**
  - I have not heard anything on a state level, but it's a really good question. It's mainly an issue that is decided on a local level.
  
- **On the subject of Medicaid, what facets of Medicaid will be cut? Does this affect disability payments and the elderly on Medicaid?**
  - From my understanding, what will not be cut is healthcare as it relates to Medicaid and those who use it for healthcare benefits. Here is a link for more information: [www.communitysolutions.com/budget-cuts-medicaid-coverage-cuts/?mc\\_cid=970fbf6e3c&mc\\_eid=73c4c40408](http://www.communitysolutions.com/budget-cuts-medicaid-coverage-cuts/?mc_cid=970fbf6e3c&mc_eid=73c4c40408)
  
- **We have a privacy policy in our church. Many will not feel comfortable with their information being passed around. Can a church deny access to membership directory in the case of covid-19 infecting church member?**
  - If someone in the congregation becomes infected with COVID-19 and you get contacted by the Health Department, know that there will be a Contact Tracer that would assist you to gather needed information and make contact with those who may have been exposed in your church.



- **For the past 2 months, churches have been allowed to meet but have been requested not to. Is the governor's office now rescinding that request as of May 21, when people can gather together to eat indoors? Also, how does this change our understanding of the "10 people or less" order?**
  - The governor's stance has never changed. While religious institutions are exempt under the order, we have encouraged you to seek alternative ways to stay connected using technology that would limit in-person contact. This however, has always been at the discretion of the pastor as we have also made it a point to respect your First Amendment rights to assemble.
  
- **We've been closed for 9-weeks, so how do re-open as a church? You can't make an order, but do you have a recommendation of how to re-open?**
  - The Governor's stance has never changed. While religious institution are exempt under the order, we have encouraged you to seek alternative ways to stay connected using technology that would limit in-person contact. This however, has always been at the discretion of the Pastor as we have also made it a point to respect your first amendment rights to assemble.

[Click here for an audio recording](#) of the Faith Friday Conference Call.