



## SHADOW MOUNTAIN COMMUNITY CHURCH

May 27, 2020

Dear Members and Friends of Shadow Mountain,

Most of you are getting this letter one day later than usual. Because of the Memorial Day holiday, we are delayed in getting it out to you, but here it is, and we hope it is an encouragement to you.

I trust that you had a wonderful long weekend. Donna and I were talking about the fact that this whole COVID 19 thing feels like an extended long weekend. We looked forward to those weekends under normal conditions, but this pandemic shutdown is getting old. We need to get back to work, back to school, and back to church.

As you know, our President was very vocal about getting back to church across the country. He reiterated that bars are deemed essential, liquor stores are deemed essential, but churches can wait until the last phase of reopening. And then he told us to go back to church carefully on Memorial Day weekend. Of course, in California we have to deal with a very liberal governor and the left wing 9th circuit court.

This week I received emails from people who are urging me to open up our church no matter what the Governor is saying. But the Governor is not forbidding us to worship. If he were doing that, I would lead the charge to disobey his orders. What he is doing is telling us that we cannot gather in our churches and risk spreading the virus. While we may not agree with him about any of this, we are responsible to comply with his instructions, and we are doing that reluctantly (Romans 13). (The reluctant part is not in the Bible).

Last weekend we announced that we are planning to come back to church on Father's Day. We are working as a team and planning to do just that. Father's Day weekend is June 21st, and that gives us time to get everything ready, and it also gives more time for this virus to go away. I know you have a lot of questions, and all of us do. The Bible tells us to seek for wisdom from God (James 1). One of the best definitions of wisdom is "knowing what to do when there is no precedent." I would suggest we are good candidates for the wisdom of God. Let us all pray and ask God for His wisdom.

We are going to work tirelessly to prepare for Father's Day weekend and trust God to go before us with the President, the Governor, and the courts.

Our Christian Schools will open for classes on August 20th, the Lord willing. But the idea of providing a graduation ceremony for this year's senior class in December (which is being done in other schools) has not been met with any enthusiasm by students or parents, so we are back at the drawing board trying to figure out how we can legally give them the graduation they deserve. We are watching what others are doing, and I am personally committed to finding a way to honor our graduates and their families.

This last weekend we had a huge viewing audience for our weekend services. We had viewers from Iran, Iraq, Australia, Canada, Mexico, Philippines, New Zealand, Brazil, Scotland, Northern Ireland, India, South Africa, and from 30 of the states in America. Our audience continues to grow, and we are

reaching more nations and people groups every weekend. And this does not include the 2 million people who watch our Turning Point telecasts each weekend. On Sunday afternoon, I received an email from my friend Erwin Lutzer. He had just seen Turning Point on the Fox Business network at 12:30. What opportunities for the gospel God has given to us. This past weekend, 297 decisions for Christ were recorded online.

Our small group ministry continues to thrive! Virtual groups are meeting all over the state of California. We have even seen groups start up in other states (Arizona and Idaho). Here are the people we touched on Memorial Day weekend:

**ENGLISH SERVICES: 28,284**

Saturday Night 5:00 p.m. Online 4,221  
Turning Point 5,300  
Sunday 9:00 a.m. Online 10,170  
10:45 a.m. Online 3,896  
12:00 p.m. Online 1,166 (New Service)  
Children Online 1,008  
Crew Online 275  
Gathering Online 409  
College Online 682  
Young Adults Online 248  
Young Adults Midweek 909

**HISPANIC SERVICES: 4,346**

Sunday 2:00 p.m. Online 3,745  
Children Online 507  
Youth 94

**ARABIC SERVICES: 11,713**

Sunday 10:00 a.m. Online 5,820  
Midweek Online 5,893

**IRANIAN SERVICES: 982**

Sunday 10:00 a.m. Online 455  
Midweek Online 527

**TOTAL 45,325**

As we officially enter the summer season, let me encourage you to tell your friends and loved ones about our online services and let's agree together that summer or no summer, in church or out of church, COVID 19 or no COVID 19:

WE WILL SERVE THE LORD - WITH OUR PRAYERS - WITH OUR ATTENDANCE AT ONLINE SERVICES - AND WITH OUR FAITHFUL GIVING TO SUPPORT ALL THAT GOD IS DOING.

Love from your pastor,



David Jeremiah  
Senior Pastor