

Date: Saturday, January 9, 2021  
Memo from: Cathy Byrne, Director, First Covenant Preschool  
Memo to: Preschool Families  
Re: Recent COVID-19 developments

Recently, several First Covenant Church members have been exposed to Covid-19 and have either tested positive or are awaiting the results of their tests/exposure. Consequently, First Covenant Church Senior Pastor Adam Rohler and the church Executive Committee have closed the Sanctuary and adjoining wing for two weeks and are moving church services and meetings online.

Before reopening this past fall, First Covenant leadership drew up precautionary measures that followed both CDC Guidelines and NY State Protocols. The congregation has been restricted to the second floor and Preschool has been restricted to the first floor in an attempt to curtail the spread of the virus should any cases arise. Although Preschool would not technically be subject to the church's closing protocols, there were a few cases this week where it was necessary for people to be on multiple floors - for instance, the requisite and unavoidable presence of the Jamestown Fire Department conducting a check of our fire alarm system. Furthermore, the Jamestown area is experiencing a surge in cases that has resulted in some areas schools temporarily switching to learning remotely.

The safety of our Preschool staff, children and families is always my highest priority and I simply cannot jeopardize anyone's health from this devastating pandemic and would be very distressed if I thought I had not done everything in my power to prevent it. Therefore, I am aligning my decision with the church's and will be closing Preschool classes for two weeks. Please know that it is not a decision made lightly but that "an abundance of caution" is our present reality. You are welcome to contact me ([mrsbyrne@firstcovpreschool.org](mailto:mrsbyrne@firstcovpreschool.org) or 716-294-6979) if you require further explanation or information. Otherwise and unless there are additional precautions necessary, First Covenant Preschool will resume on Monday, January 25.

Mrs. Beresford and I will be creating videos for you to access with your child and sending ideas for learning activities that you can work on at home with your child. We are also available for video chats with your child so that we can stay connected.