



THE PRESBYTERY OF SOUTHERN NEW ENGLAND

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November 13, 2020

Dear Members and Friends in PSNE,

We write to you with heavy hearts as we watch the growing Covid-19 infection rates begin to dangerously grow around the three states that make up the Presbytery.

At this time, we would like to strongly encourage all congregations and ministries of the Presbytery, if they have not yet already, to return to 100% virtual gatherings.

We know this is not the position any of us would like to be in at this time, but safety and health must be our first priority, not just for those in our immediate congregations and ministries, but for those in our surrounding communities as well. Our faith compels us to put the priorities of others before our own, and at this time, as Covid-19 infections rise this must be the time to once again, for a season, discontinue in-person gatherings until the infection rates return to more sustainable and healthy levels.

The [Covid Act Now](#) website, as of today, has all three of the states that make up the bounds of our Presbytery in the red zone. This designation means that there are “Active or Imminent Outbreaks.”

If there is any way we can be of assistance to you or your congregation in these decisions or conversations, please let us know, and we would be glad to be conversation partners and to support you in any way.

As always, you remain in our prayers, as well as our nation and world as this terrible pandemic continues to take a deadly and debilitating toll on so many. We pray to God for healing and for God’s gift of wisdom upon all those who are seeking to find treatments and vaccines.

In Christ’s Service,
Roundtable Ad-Hoc Covid-19 Team
Elder Lisa Baker
Elder Dick Hasbeny
Rev. John Merz
Rev. Shannan Vance-Ocampo