



Return to Worship

Reopening Plans & Procedures

The following information is a list of the plans, procedures and guidelines that have been recommended by the pastor and deacons as we prepare to reopen for worship. These guidelines are in conjunction with the recommendations of our Insurance Company, Local Association and our Health Officials. We ask that all who attend our worship services comply with the guidelines set forth in this document. Our goal is to provide all who choose to attend a safe environment which allows you to focus on hearing God's voice without being distracted by fears of being exposed to harmful germs.

The procedures set forth in this document are not permanent, nor has a set time been established when certain ministries and events will resume. We will continue to monitor the situation in our community and update these policies when we believe it is safe to do so. I want to remind you that this is a time for unity and understanding. Everyone will not agree with every step that is being taken, but rest assured that we are doing the best we can to honor God's plans for our church as well as to keep our church family as safe as possible.

As a general rule we are asking all who attend to follow the same social distancing protocols and guidelines that are utilized throughout other areas of our society. We encourage our elderly members, those with underlying conditions and anyone who is not feeling well to remain home and join us via livestream.

Service Times

- We will be offering 2 Sunday morning worship services when we return.
- There will be an early service at **8:30am** and a later service at **10:30am**.
- We asking all those who plan to attend to sign up for which service you will be attending. You can sign up on our website or by contacting the church office.

****Why the 2 Services?***

- In order to maintain proper social distancing our seating capacity is limited. Having 2 services will allow for additional spacing between attenders and hopefully provide additional comfort to those who are anxious about returning to larger gatherings.
 - With no children's ministries or nursery available we realize that it is going to be nearly impossible for families with young children to attend. Therefore, we are encouraging grandparents to attend one service and then offer to babysit their grandchildren so the parents may attend the other service.
- *The sanctuary will be sanitized in between the early and later service.*

The following ministries will NOT resume when we first return:

- There will be no Pre-Sunday School Coffee & Fellowship Time
- Sunday School and Small Groups will not meet
- There will be no Choir
- There will be no Church Gatherings, Meals, Activities or Additional Ministries
- There will be no Paper Bulletins (Announcements will be on Screens and made Online)
- There will be no Nursery, Children S.S. or Children's Church. Families will be asked to sit together in services.
- There will be no observance of the Lord's Supper on any dates scheduled.

The following precautions and procedures have been taken to ensure safety of those attending:

- *Social distancing signage has been placed on both main entrance doors and throughout.*
- *We temporarily restricted access to all areas of our facility except the foyer, foyer restrooms and sanctuary. The youth wing, both Sunday school wings, fellowship hall, kitchen and children's wing will be locked and noted as areas temporarily restricted. (This will limit areas needed to sanitize in between services each week)*
- *We have removed all magazines, brochures and any other loose literature from our foyer.*
- *All hymnals, pew bibles, guest information cards and envelopes have been removed from pews.*
- *We have installed offering boxes at the back of the sanctuary and at the welcome table to receive tithes and offerings.*
- *There will be no fellowship or greeting time in Service*
- *We've installed new automatic soap dispensers & new paper towel dispensers throughout our facility in all bathrooms and kitchen areas.*
- *We have ensured social distancing in our sanctuary by roping off every other pew.*
- *Both sides of our balcony have also been prepped for additional seating if needed.*
- *Everyone attending will be asked to wait at the center doors of the sanctuary until you are able to be seated by one of our ushers to ensure social distancing.*
- *We have placed social distancing floor decals at the entrance to the sanctuary and in the bathrooms to serve as a reminder and an aid about proper social distancing.*
- *Hand Sanitizer Stations are Available in foyer. (We ask that all those who have personal hand sanitizers to bring them and utilize them to help save church resources.)*
- *We strongly urge the use of face masks by all who attend. Ushers and greeters will be required to wear face masks. The church will have a limited number of face masks available if needed.*
- *The church also has several touchless thermometers to utilize within our children's ministry when it resumes in the future.*
- *Greeters will be at each main entrance to open doors.*
- *At the conclusion of the service we ask that all remain in their seats and be dismissed by rows to ensure adequate space while exiting the facility.*
- *We have purchased a disinfectant fogging machine to disinfect the sanctuary each week.*

I hope that this information will help you see that we have taken this crisis seriously and that we are trying to take every precaution we can to ensure the health and safety of all who worship with us. When you return things will be different, but our goal of glorifying Christ and reaching others for the Kingdom will never change. May God help us to keep our eyes on Jesus during these difficult times.

"Looking unto Jesus the author and finisher of our faith; who for the joy that was set before him endured the cross, despising the shame, and is set down at the right hand of the throne of God."

Hebrews 12:2