



CHURCH-WIDE UPDATE | AUGUST 12, 2020

As we approach the end of summer and the resuming of school and other fall activities, the staff and leadership at First Baptist Celina have been meeting extensively and prayerfully to decide the best way forward. It's our desire to provide a safe atmosphere for the body of believers to worship the Lord and study His word. It's also our desire to do everything we can to allow every family to come back on campus. We are incredibly thankful for the ability to worship and gather online, but no amount of streaming can replace the gathering of believers long term. These updates are flexible and subject to change as guidelines shift and mandates are lifted in the state. We are watching and meeting weekly to determine if and when things need to change and will communicate that via email, social media, and www.firstcelina.org. With that in mind, please take a few moments to read through our plan for *moving forward*.

SERVICE SCHEDULE

Due to the need to social distance and maintain below a certain capacity in our Worship Center, we will continue to offer two services on Sundays at 8:30am and 10:15am.

SEATING

We will continue to tape off every other pew in the Worship Center to allow for social distancing. We would ask that families sit together and to allow 6 feet between your family and the next if you are sharing a pew. If you are 65+ or considered "high risk," there is reserved seating on the south side of the Worship Center in front of the production booth.

OVERFLOW & FAMILIES WITH YOUNG CHILDREN

The Youth Worship Center will continue to be offered as an overflow area with the service broadcast during both services. This is also a great area for families with children who need a little extra space to move. We LOVE having the children in worship, but we recognize that some families are more comfortable with a dedicated area.

WORSHIP ONLINE

Our online worship services will continue to be made available via Facebook, Youtube, www.firstcelina.org, and our church app (available for iOS and Android). We will be streaming the 10:15am only and will be live 10 minutes prior to service starting.

SANITIZING & CLEANING

We are taking extra steps in sanitizing and cleaning our facilities. The restrooms, doors, and other high traffic areas are getting extra attention weekly. We are also cleaning and sanitizing pews between services so you are more confident in worshipping in-person.

MASKS (NEW)

Beginning Sunday, August 16 we are implementing a new protocol for face coverings for Sunday mornings and Wednesday evenings. We are asking that everyone wear some type of face covering when entering the building and moving through the hallways. This will also include our ushers,

greeters, and welcome team. Once you are seated in the Worship Center, you are free to remove your face covering. Houses of Worship have been exempt from Executive Order GA-29, but we feel this is an important step in **moving forward** with more people being on campus and more exposure in the school system. Once again, this particular measure will be evaluated weekly to determine the need and effectiveness.

CHILDCARE (NEW)

Beginning Sunday, August 23 we will begin offering childcare for children birth through 4 years old. Based on capacity and social distancing guidelines, childcare can only be offered on a very limited basis, will only be made available during the second service, and will require registration at www.firstcelina.org. If you are unable to reserve a spot, there will be an opportunity for you to join a waiting list for the following week. Some of the protocols with this plan include temperature readings at the door, limiting staff and adults in the preschool area, and increased cleaning and sanitizing procedures. More information about childcare will be sent out in the upcoming days.

SUNDAY SCHOOL (NEW)

Beginning Sunday, September 13 we will begin offering Sunday School here on campus for all ages. The time will be determined on whether or not we are still in two Worship Services. We will alert you to the schedule a week before we begin.

SUNDAY NIGHTS

At this time, there are no plans for any in-person Sunday night activities for this semester.

WEDNESDAY NIGHT MINISTRIES (NEW)

Beginning, Wednesday, September 16 we will resume AWANA, Merge, & Student Ministry. Due to capacity and social distancing, AWANA and Merge must be pre-registered and are first-come, first-serve. Spots are filling up quickly so be sure to register at www.firstcelina.org. Adult Choir will not be offered at this time.

WEDNESDAY NIGHT MEAL (NEW)

Beginning, Wednesday, September 16 we will also resume Wednesday Night Meal. WNM will be by reservation only and pre-paid online at www.firstcelina.org. Due to this being very limited in numbers, we are asking that *only* families who are attending a Wednesday night activity or serving reserve online. Families **must** sit together and children are not allowed to move about the hallways or Fellowship Hall until time to begin. Parents, we need your help supervising your children so we can continue this ministry. Students will have reserved seating upstairs in The Loft. The team is working hard on changing the menus and how they operate to provide a safe environment in line and in the Fellowship Hall. Help is needed during the meal so if you're available and willing, please contact info@firstcelina.org.

Thank you church for being patient, prayerful, and understanding during these unprecedented times. Again, our goal in **moving forward** is to reach all ages for the Kingdom. As things continue to develop and change over time, we will prayerfully consider the next steps and communicate those clearly and in a timely manner. In the meantime, we hope this plan will allow you and your family to come back to campus very soon. We appreciate your prayers over the staff and all of the encouragement you've offered over the past several months. Forward!