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Cooper City Church of God  
COVID-19 RESPONSE

**MOVING  
FORWARD  
PLAN**



Revised 9-16-20

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## COOPER CITY CHURCH OF GOD MOVING FORWARD PLAN

### WHY IS THIS PLAN IMPORTANT?

This plan has been designed as a response to the COVID-19 pandemic. While there are still uncertainties ahead, we want to be prepared for the time when we return to the church campus in-person gatherings. We want to use creativity and wisdom to develop a plan of excellence that will protect our congregation while also allowing the gathering of the church family.

### COVID-19 GUIDELINES FROM BROWARD COUNTY, THE CENTER FOR DISEASE CONTROL, AND THE FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

It is imperative that reopened businesses follow the requirements of the Broward County Emergency Order restrictions, including sanitization, wearing of facial coverings and posting of required signage. Residents must adhere to requirements for social distancing and wearing of facial coverings. These important steps will help us stop the spread of COVID-19.

#### **Cover Your Face**

The CDC recommends and Broward County Emergency Order require residents and visitors, unless otherwise exempted, to wear a facial covering in public, and to wear it properly, including over the nose and mouth. The facial covering can be constructed of any material, but should utilize CDC guidelines. Disposable face masks and gloves are not recyclable – please dispose of properly.

#### **Observe Social Distancing**

Practice “social distancing” by staying at least six feet from other people. Do not gather in groups and stay out of crowded places. Remember that the elderly and those with underlying medical conditions are especially vulnerable to COVID-19.

#### **Prevent Infection Spread**

Wash your hands frequently with soap and water for at least 20 seconds, avoid touching your face, and follow Florida Department of Health guidelines for other preventive measures. If you are sick, stay home and follow the advice of your health care provider.

#### **Support Local Business**

Residents are encouraged to patronize local businesses that adhere to the guidelines, while continuing to observe responsible personal hygiene, social distancing and the business requirements for reopening.

Broward County officials continue to work closely with the Florida Department of Health, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, the Governor's Office and the Florida Department of Emergency Management to help residents, visitors and employees weather this health crisis. For more info, visit <https://floridahealthcovid19.gov/plan-for-floridas-recovery/>.

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## UNDERSTANDING THE LANGUAGE OF COVID-19 // KEY DEFINITIONS

### **At-Risk Populations**

According to the World Health Organization (WHO), people of all ages can be infected by COVID-19. Older people (65 years and older), people living in a nursing home or long-term care facility, and people with pre-existing medical conditions -- asthma, chronic lung disease, diabetes, liver disease, chronic kidney disease, heart disease, severe obesity (body mass index of 40 or higher), and those immunocompromised (having an impaired immune system) -- all appear to be more vulnerable to becoming severely ill with the virus.

### **Social Distancing**

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) defines social distancing or “physical distancing” as keeping space between yourself and other people outside of your home. The CDC defines “keeping space” as staying at least six (6) feet from other people.

### **Fever**

The CDC considers a person to have a fever when he or she has a measured temperature of at least 100.4 degrees Fahrenheit.

### **Personal Protective Equipment (PPE)**

This is equipment worn to minimize exposure to hazards that can cause serious injuries and illnesses. Personal protective equipment may include items such as gloves, safety glasses, face masks, hard hats, respirators, etc.

## A THREE PHASE PLAN

It's important to note that there is no need to rush a return to our building. We will continue doing online services while our congregation is still experiencing pandemic anxiety.

**We will implement Phase 1 starting Sunday, October 4, 2020.** Each additional phase will be introduced as directed by the pastoral leadership team. As of the publishing of this document, there is no set timeline to roll out each of the additional phases.

During all phases, we will continue extensive disinfecting procedures. A detailed list of cleaning and disinfecting procedures is included on the following pages of the plan. Extensive disinfection and cleaning will take place before each service. We want our congregation to be aware that we have done due diligence in creating a safe and disinfected environment.

Additional consideration and planning will be made based on new recommendations, recent history of successes and challenges, and needs for our congregation and community.

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**PHASE 1** *(contains parts of Phase 2 from previous publication)*

- **We will implement Phase 1 starting Sunday, October 4, 2020.**
- We will offer in-house worship experiences each Sunday at 8:30am and 10:30am.
- We will offer our online services on Sunday at 8:30am and 10:30am and Saturday at 7:00pm.
- In adherence to the Broward County Emergency Order, everyone (unless otherwise exempted) is required to wear a facial covering in public and to wear it properly, including over the nose and mouth.
- We will adjust seating in the main auditorium and Kid City to meet social distancing recommendations. We will essentially seat people on a first-come, first-served basis.
- Once we reach the recommended 50% capacity for public gatherings, we will close the Main Auditorium.
- We will offer nursery ministry but may limit the attendees based on capacity recommendations. All children for nursery will have their temperature taken digitally prior to entering the building.
- We will offer Kid City ministry but only in the Next Gen Gym and not in classrooms. All children for Kid City will have their temperature taken digitally prior to entering the building.
- Parents will have the choice to bring their children to the nursery, KidCity or to bring them to the main auditorium to worship together as a family.
- We will maintain the attendance of children and volunteers based on the most current guidelines.
- We will promote no contact between people. We will take proper precautions, such as propping doors open and placing offering buckets or Lord's Supper elements in central locations instead of passing from person-to-person.
- We will create specific entrances and exits to the building to help limit the pathways for attendees to use and help meet the social distancing requirements.
- We will offer private baptism ceremonies (by appointment only) for families. Attendance will be limited based on the current guidelines. The baptismal pool will be drained and sanitized after each use.
- We will offer baby dedications (by appointment only) for families. Attendance for private ceremonies will be limited based on the current guidelines.
- We will not offer on-campus groups on Sunday during this phase.
- We will not offer midweek gatherings or groups during this phase.
- We will continue to promote and offer online groups for all ages.
- There will be no Connection Café or Connection Kitchen.

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## **PHASE 2**

In Phase 2, we will include all of the offerings from Phase 1 and in addition:

- **We plan to implement Phase 2 with consideration of progress through Phase 1 and based on the recommendations of federal, state, and local government authorities for public gatherings.**
- We will continue to offer on-campus worship experiences but will adapt new times for the services based on attendance and to fit the recommendations as they are adjusted by the federal, state, and local government.
- We will maximize the in-house worship experience attendees based on relaxed guidelines.
- We will continue to offer our online worship experiences on Saturday at 7:00pm, and on Sunday at 8:30am and 10:30am.
- We will begin to introduce the choir and orchestra into the worship experiences but will keep spacing on the stage as per guidelines.
- We will begin to offer on-campus groups on Sunday during this phase. These groups will be limited to certain areas based on recommended guidelines.
- We will promote and encourage new online groups to start and use the sermon-based curriculum to go deeper with the weekly teaching.
- We will introduce the new plans for midweek gatherings and groups during this phase; including nursery, Kid City groups, Cooper City Youth, Choir and Orchestra, and Wednesday Experience.

## **PHASE 3**

In Phase 3, we will include all of the offerings from Phase 1 and Phase 2 and in addition:

- **We plan to implement Phase 3 once the federal, state, and local government authorities remove all limitations on public gatherings.**
- We will continue to offer our online worship experiences on Saturday at 7:00pm and on Sunday at 8:30am and 10:30am. Times may be adjusted to better serve our online community engagement.
- We will continue to offer on-campus worship experiences. We will adapt new times for the worship experiences based on attendance and to best fulfill the vision and mission of the church.
- All nursery and Kid City groups, meetings or services will resume.
- All on-campus groups that have not converted to digital/online or off-campus will resume on Sundays and during the week. New times will be determined and published prior to opening of Phase 3.
- Connection Café and Connection Kitchen will reopen.

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## OTHER FUNCTIONS FOR GATHERINGS

### **Baptism**

- We will offer private baptism ceremonies (by appointment only) for families.
- Attendance for these ceremonies will follow the current guidelines just as we do on a Sunday.
- Baptism services will be recorded to share with the congregation during a future worship experience.
- The baptismal pool will be drained and sanitized after each use.

### **Baby Dedication**

- We will offer private baby dedications (by appointment only) for families.
- Attendance for private ceremonies will follow the current guidelines just as we do on a Sunday.
- Photos from the baby dedication service will be taken and shared with the congregation during a future worship experience.

### **Communion**

- We will lead the congregation in worship by receiving communion during designated worship experiences.
- To avoid unnecessary contact and risk, ushers will distribute individual pre-filled communion packets to families as they enter.
- Receiving the elements will be strictly optional for those who wish to participate.
- Empty packets can be discarded in receptacles as people exit.

### **Programs, Welcome Guides, and Connection/First Timer Cards**

- No paper programs, guides, cards, or pens will be passed out during gathering.
- We will promote and encourage everyone to use our digital plan for collecting information on guests and any spiritual next step decisions.

### **Coffee Stations, Water Fountains, and other Food Services**

- To minimize touch points all water fountains, coffee stations, and break rooms will be closed.
- We will offer bottled water at the Connection Central counter upon request.

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## **CLEANING CONSIDERATIONS AND PLANNING FOR GENERAL AREAS**

The Church facilities team will be using the Ionogen™ IonoMAX™ Mister to disinfect our campus before and after each worship experience. This InstaFlow and Immerse-A-Clean sprayer enables us to create a cleaner safe environment for our congregation. This broad spectrum disinfectant is a proven, proprietary technology that is being used in U.S. hospitals and doctors offices. The disinfectant is 100% safe and has EPA approval for killing Covid-19 in 60 seconds or less.

In addition to spraying all traffic and seating areas, our facilities team will be on campus and cleaning the following areas repeatedly with with disinfecting solution.

### **AREAS AND SURFACES TO CLEAN**

- ▶ Restrooms (cleaned after each individual use)
- ▶ Doors
- ▶ Door handles
- ▶ Entry ways
- ▶ Connection Central
- ▶ Giving kiosk
- ▶ Check-in tablets
- ▶ Counters
- ▶ Office furniture
- ▶ Worship instruments
- ▶ Microphones
- ▶ Sound equipment
- ▶ Computers
- ▶ Connection Café chairs and tables
- ▶ Kitchen (when reopened)
- ▶ Coffee stations (when reopened)
- ▶ Water fountains (when reopened)

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## **CLEANING CONSIDERATIONS AND PLANNING FOR NURSERY, PRESCHOOL and KID CITY**

- ▶ All nursery and Kid City Ministry Hero volunteers will wear face coverings and gloves.
- ▶ Each child's temperature will be taken digitally (with infrared device) prior to entering the building. Any child registering a temperature above 100.4 degrees Fahrenheit will not be permitted to enter the nursery of KidCity.
- ▶ Check In stations for nursery and KidCity will be setup at both lobby entrances to our campus. Parents will be educated on how to download a free app to help speed up the check in process for their families.

The Church facilities team will be using the Ionogen™ IonoMAX™ Mister to disinfect the nursery and KidCity area before and after each worship experience. This broad spectrum disinfectant is a proven, proprietary technology that is being used in U.S. hospitals and doctors offices. The disinfectant is 100% safe and has EPA approval for killing Covid-19 in 60 seconds or less.

In addition to spraying all areas of the nursery and KidCity, our facilities team and Next Generation Ministry Heroes will be on campus and cleaning the following areas repeatedly with with disinfecting solution.

### **AREAS AND ITEMS TO CLEAN**

- ▶ Cribs, including washing sheets and wiping down mattresses and rails
- ▶ Diaper changing areas
- ▶ Hard surfaces - like doorknobs, tabletops, chairs, counters, shelves, etc.
- ▶ Walls
- ▶ Floors
- ▶ Restrooms
- ▶ Toys
- ▶ Teaching materials