

# ROADMAP TO REOPENING FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

How do I plan to attend church?

Hamilton Mill UMC will continue to offer two livestream worship services (traditional and modern) every Sunday allowing you the opportunity to still worship at home. If you have not been sick and feel ready to return to in-person worship, we're eager to welcome you back starting with outdoor worship on July 12 and indoor worship on August 9.

Can you tell me more about the Outdoor Worship starting July 12?

Starting July 12th, we will offer a weekly Summer Sunrise Worship Service at 7:30 am as part of our Phase 2 plan

- Worship will be held on the church lawn by the cross
- Because outdoor worship will be a casual atmosphere, you're welcome to come as you are in your favorite summer apparel
- Worshipers are asked to bring a lawn chair, blanket, or towel for you and your family to sit on, as chairs will not be provided.
- Seating areas will be socially distanced and marked on the lawn for your convenience
- Masks are strongly encouraged but not required. They are required inside the church (if bathroom use is needed).
- Nursery and kid's programming will not be available at this time
- No pre-registration is needed. Feel free to come and join us each Sunday morning with your lawn chairs
- Outdoor worship will be weather permitting, so a notification will be posted on [hmumc.org](http://hmumc.org) by 6:30 am Sunday morning if worship will be canceled

What precautions are HMUMC taking to ensure my family's safety?

Your HMUMC staff is working hard to follow up-to-date safety precautions and preventive actions provided to us from the Center for Disease Control, our state government officials, and any additional instructions from the North Georgia Conference of the United Methodist Church.

Additionally, we are maintaining the highest level of cleanliness and sanitization standards. The church will be cleaned and disinfected regularly, as well as multiple cleanings of restrooms, Worship Center, and other high-traffic areas while in use. We will make masks and hand sanitizer available, provide clean facilities, and a safe environment that reduces potential of exposure.

As instructions and policies change from the CDC, state officials and our North Georgia Conference of the UMC, we will update, change and implement as needed.

How do I let HMUMC know I want to have a small group meeting at the church?

All groups of 25 people-or-less that would like to gather in the church building, can request the space using our [HMUMC Ministry Request Form](#). Once your form is submitted, requests will be reviewed and granted as space limitations allow. Each group must have a designated leader in attendance that has been given safety guidelines by our staff. Additionally, we cannot allow any shared food or beverages during small group gatherings.

How will registration work for in-person worship starting August 9?

The HMUMC Staff is hard at work finalizing our easy-to-use process for advanced registration. We will be communicating those instructions to you in the coming weeks.

What will Kids and Student programming look like?

Kids and Student programming on Sundays and Wednesdays will not resume until at least September 8, 2020. Families are encouraged to worship together on Sunday mornings in whichever online or in-person format works best for you. We will continue to offer many opportunities for Kids and Students to have time together through many online and small group activities.

What will funerals be like?

During our reopening phases, funeral attendance will be limited to 50 persons total, which will allow for about 45 family/friends, in addition to the 4-5 staff members who will be present.

- HMUMC will not publicize the services to the congregation, but will leave invitations up to the family. A live stream option will be available if the family is interested.
- Chairs will be spaced appropriately in the worship center to maintain social distancing.
- Anyone in the worship center who is not currently speaking or singing will be required to wear a mask. Attendees are asked to bring their own masks but the church will provide if needed.
- Hand sanitizer will be available throughout our building and is highly encouraged.
- Unfortunately, gathering in the narthex before and after the funeral service will not be available. Attendees are encouraged to arrive no earlier than 20 minutes before the start of the service, if possible.
- Attendees will be brought into the worship center by our staff or volunteers similar to a wedding – you will be brought in by rows and asked to leave by rows
- Receptions will not be offered at the church following the service.

What will Preschool and MMO look like?

As of June 25, 2020, we are planning to open as scheduled on September 8, 2020 and are working closely with our HMUMC health advisory team and church leadership to determine what both Preschool and MMO will look like this fall. Additionally, we follow the Gwinnett County Public School calendar, so we are anxiously waiting any updates from them and will update accordingly. Please keep an eye out on our webpages and the Preschool and MMO teams will be in touch as we learn more.

Please note these questions and answers will continue to evolve as we go.

For any additional questions, please email [communications@hmumc.org](mailto:communications@hmumc.org)

