



Safety Protocols for In-person Service During Restriction Period

Purpose Statement: It is both exciting and daunting to plan for the reopening of our church for in-person services. We are all looking forward to seeing each other and worshipping together but it is incumbent on the church to ensure we have provided the safest possible opportunity for that to take place. Using both state recommended guidelines plus our understanding of best practices we are outlining the steps to be taken in addition to our normal safety conscious approach.

General Guidelines:

- There will be only one service starting at 10:45 AM and will not include childcare or Access Ministry.
- The facility will be cleaned and sanitized by an outside cleaning service before and after each in-person service time. Should we need to expand morning worship to two services to maintain adequate spacing a cleaning will occur between those services.
- The four main entry points (Front door-west side, North door, South door and rear door-west side) will be open for access to the building at least 30 minutes prior to start time.
- Greeters and Safety Team members will be stationed inside and near those doors to assist people as needed and to ensure congregating at entry points does not occur.
- All staff and volunteers will be screened on arrival and required to wear face masks covering both the nose and mouth while on duty interacting with the membership. Screening will consist of a temperature check plus questions about symptoms and/or contact with confirmed Covid-19 subjects. Staff or volunteers with known symptoms or known contact will not be allowed to work or serve until the end of a 14-day self-quarantine period.
- We will not require attendees to wear masks or other face coverings. However, we strongly encourage everyone who is attending to wear one that covers the nose and mouth.
- Staff and volunteers should wash or sanitize their hands upon entering the building and regularly after contact with the public.
- Markings will be placed on the floor in the main hallways to encourage safe distancing of the traffic flow.
- Members will be seated by family unit and separated from other families by a distance of no less than six feet laterally and every other row will be skipped to maintain adequate distances front to back. Ushers will be used to ensure seating is accomplished as outlined.
- An area will be designated for “at risk” members where seating arrangements will be expanded even further than above and made available to anyone desiring greater protection. However, we strongly urge “at risk” attendees to participate online at home. ([Who is the “At Risk” Population? – CDC](#))
- Dismissal will be introduced from the platform by row and supervised by ushers to ensure adequate distancing. Staff will also encourage members to not congregate in the halls or at exit points and to be extra vigilant of their children to maintain adequate distancing especially from at risk attendees.

- Offerings will be conducted by allowing members to place their gifts into secure-lock boxes located at the main entry points of the sanctuary. Ushers will maintain security of those baskets and collect them when the sanctuary is clear.
- There will be no coffee service.
- There will be no communion or greeting time during the worship service.
- Hand sanitizer will be stationed at strategic locations for easy access by the public.
- Informational signage will be placed at various locations reminding members of best hygiene practices. This will include signs on restroom doors encouraging people to wait outside the restroom if it is occupied by two or more people.