

DECISION TO REOPEN FOLLOWING CDC & STATE GUIDANCE

During this time apart from corporate worship in the sanctuary, we have eagerly anticipated regathering! After prayerful consideration and consultation with medical professionals and other fellow church leaders, we have decided to resume modified Sunday services on June 7. In order to care for our church, we are implementing the following plan to ensure, to the best of our ability, that we are worshipping in a safe environment. We will modify our Sunday gatherings as appropriate as things progress. We also understand some of you may still feel uncomfortable gathering at this point, so please continue to enjoy the live-stream service. For many there is prudence and wisdom in continuing to minimize interaction with large groups. We encourage the following more vulnerable individuals to consider staying home initially as we resume services: 1) elderly, 2) those with compromised immune systems, and 3) those with severe underlying medical conditions (such as heart or lung disease, diabetes, etc.). Ultimately, however, whether to attend is your choice. For those that wish to attend, please read the below guidance. The elders will continue to evaluate the situation and make adjustments as we meet. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact one of our Elders. Thank you for your patience and deference to one another during this unique opportunity to glorify God!

REOPEN PLAN | SUNDAY JUNE 7, 2020 SUNDAY WORSHIP SERVICE

Beginning the following week, June 7, 2020, we will be meeting inside, and the following protocol will be observed to promote the safety of all our attending brothers and sisters in Christ.

WHAT YOU CAN EXPECT ONCE OUR LORD'S DAY SERVICE RESUME

- Before entering our nurses/designated medical team will ask the following questions:
 - *Have you come into close contact (within 6 feet) with someone who has a laboratory confirmed COVID – 19 diagnosis in the past 14 days?*
 - *Do you have any of the following: fever or chills, cough, shortness of breath or difficulty breathing, body aches, headache, new loss of taste or smell, sore throat?*
- Nurses/designated medical team will be equipped to do thermal scanning if there is any concern about the possibility of a fever
- Some areas will be taped off for your protection.
- We are encouraging everyone to please let Sherrill know if you plan on attending service for planning purposes, Facebook or Church web site is also ok.
- All entry into the sanctuary will be limited to the two front doors.
- Doors will be held for you by ushers.
- End of service dismissal will be 1 row at a time back to front.
- Door greeters and ushers will be present to help direct and facilitate but will not initiate any physical contact.
- For this initial stage there will be no prayer meeting, nursery, children's ministry classes, or adult Sunday School classes.
- Parking and entry will be open from 38th Street and 22nd Ave.

- The following will be closed: library/bookstore, water fountains, and playground.
- Bathrooms will remain open, but will be limited to one-at-a-time, signs will be posted and knocking on door will be highly encouraged, hand sanitizer available inside and out. Lysol will be placed in the stalls for your convenience and safety.
- Hand sanitizer will be available at various places in the Narthex and within the church building.
- Masks are encouraged but not required for everyone over the age of 2 unless you have breathing difficulties or may have need of assistance to remove your mask.
- Every fourth pew will be available and six feet will be maintained between household groups. As you enter to be seated, an usher will direct you to an available seat. Please follow the directions of the usher as they will be trying to quickly seat people with a reduced seating capacity.
- Offering: offering plates will be placed at exits at the conclusion of each service.
- If you need any assistance at any time, please notify an usher or any of the church leadership.

COMMUNION SUNDAY

At this time the Session has decided to postpone communion until the first Sunday in July and will be in continued conversation about how to observe it in the safest way possible for our members.

SERVING OTHERS

- Please limit physical contact and observe government guidance on social distancing protocol to the max extent possible while interacting with others inside and outside the buildings. Please do not gather in large groups inside or outside. Even outside and in the parking lots we want to be an example to our community.
- If you or any member of your family exhibit any flu or cold-type symptoms, please remain home. These include: fever, cough, shortness of breath or difficulty breathing, chills, repeated shaking with chills, muscle pain, headache, sore throat, new loss of taste or smell, etc. (Please visit the CDC website for more information on symptoms: www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/symptoms-testing/symptoms.html.)
- If you have been in contact with anyone suspected of having COVID-19, please follow the appropriate CDC guidance and remain home for the live-stream service.
- Parents of children:
 - During this first stage of our reopen plan, please keep your children with you at all times while on the church campus. We love our children playing and enjoying time together and we will loosen this guidance as soon as practical!
 - Please be very mindful of any symptoms your child may have. While children have proved to be generally resilient to the virus, they can be carriers. If your child exhibits any of the above symptoms, please keep them home.
 - Please discuss the relevant information with them ahead of time so that they are prepared for these significant changes.

WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY

The Women's Bible study beginning Tuesday, June 2nd, will be conducted according to the safety and health regulations stipulated in this letter.

FINALLY

As much as we desire to resume our other church ministries, like Choir, Sunday School, Nursery etc. we will be reopening all other ministries incrementally, but not too slowly. We will keep you updated along the way via regular email updates. The Session will be in regular discussion moving forward and we hope to be reinstating our morning prayer group and our Sunday School classes in the near future.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR PATIENCE!

As we resume gathering, we know that adjustments will likely be needed as we learn how to best facilitate worship and fellowship in a reasonably safe manner. Thank you in advance for your patience and love for one another!