

WUMC Survey Regarding Reopening Plan and Online Worship

The WUMC Church Council is seeking your opinion and feedback regarding the best way to be the church during this challenging time and into the foreseeable future.

This survey can be completed and submitted using any one of three methods: 1) online via Survey Monkey, 2) written via U.S. mail or 3) verbal via telephone.

Thank you for taking the time to thoughtfully respond to the following questions.

Sincerely,
WUMC Church Council

INTRODUCTION:

The United Methodist New York Annual Conference (NYAC) has set strict standards for reopening churches. Like the state government, they have prescribed a phased approach to a safe opening.

WUMC Church Council has formed a COVID-19 Recovery Team (CRT) that is working hand-in-hand with the WUMC Board of Trustees (BOT) to develop and implement a plan for safely reopening the church in a manner that is compliant with governmental, NYAC, and insurance company guidelines. Details of governing guidelines and WUMC's plan are available on our website: <https://woodburyumc.net/covid-recovery%2Freopening>.

A significant effort will be required to reopen the church, including:

- Performing a deep cleaning of the entire church
- Performing cleaning and disinfecting after each worship service
- Purchasing appropriate cleaning and disinfecting supplies
- Purchasing Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) such as gloves and face masks
- Increasing supplies of hand soap and hand sanitizer
- Developing a plan for safe entry and exit
- Developing a seating plan that permits social distancing
- District Superintendent's review and approval of our plan

Once approved for reopening there will be certain restrictions within the worship service during Phase 1, including:

- 50 person attendance limit
- 6 foot social distancing
- Face masks will be required
- No congregational singing
- No live choir (soloists only)
- Persons under the age of 2 and over the age of 65, as well as others considered to be vulnerable, will be strongly urged to not attend live worship services at this time
- Children will not be allowed to come forward for Children's time, but rather participate from their pew
- In person Sunday School will not be permitted
- Traditional distribution of Communion elements will not be allowed
- Pastors will not be permitted to greet people in line after the service
- Fellowship Hour will not be permitted

The WUMC CRT and BOT are willing to take on the effort to safely reopen and ensure the modified worship service is as meaningful as possible. At the same time, it will be important to know how many persons are likely to attend under such conditions. Just as important, we want you to be well-informed about NYAC guidelines, worship service restrictions, potential risks if attending in person.

Ultimately, we are concerned about continuing God's work at WUMC without compromising the welfare of our congregation or our community.

Part 1: Reopening WUMC

- 1) Do you feel you are well-informed about the United Methodist Church's response to COVID-19 and plans to reopen the church?**
 - Yes
 - No
 - Unsure
- 2) If WUMC reopens for Sunday services with required Phase 1 guidelines (see survey Introduction), how likely are you to attend on a regular basis during July and August.**
 - Very likely
 - Somewhat likely
 - Not likely
 - Unsure
- 3) Would you be more likely to attend in September-December if the same restrictions were imposed?**
 - More likely
 - About the same
 - Less likely
 - Unsure
- 4) Would you prefer to attend outdoor services during July and August if they were held at a remote location (e.g., Woodbury town green, Hollow Park) with social distancing and bringing your own seating?**
 - Yes
 - No
 - Unsure
- 5) What would cause you to be more likely to attend services in person during Phase 1 reopening (check all that apply)?**
 - More protocols/processes to further reduce risk of exposure to the coronavirus.
 - Fewer restrictions on worship service.
 - Not applicable – I think there are adequate protections in place
 - Not applicable – I don't plan to attend in-person services during Phase 1
 - Other, please specify: _____
- 6) Which of the following modifications to enhance worship service in lieu of singing would you find acceptable during Phase 1 guidelines (please check all that are acceptable to you)?**
 - Pre-recorded virtual choir for playback during service
 - Read-along to hymns accompanied by music
 - Moments of silence for meditation/reflection
 - Non-touch, socially distant greeting line outside
 - Other. Please specify: _____
- 7) Would you be willing to pre-register to attend worship services in order to help comply with the 50-person limit in the sanctuary?**
 - Yes
 - No
- 8) In order to serve as many people as possible, while complying with limit of 50 attendees in the sanctuary, which of the following would you prefer (check all that apply)?**
 - Two services (Saturday evening, Sunday morning)
 - Two services (twice on Sundays)
 - Overflow participation by audio or closed-circuit TV in Fellowship Hall
 - Online service only
 - Other. Please specify: _____

9) If you are uncomfortable attending services in person during Phase 1, how likely are you to participate in a remote (online or call-in) worship service?

- Very likely
- Somewhat likely
- Not likely
- Unsure

10) How likely are you to participate in a remote (online or call-in) Fellowship Hour during Phase 1?

- Very likely
- Somewhat likely
- Not likely
- Unsure

11) Would you be willing to volunteer for any of the following to help in reopening the church? (please check all that apply)

- One-time deep cleaning and modification of the church?
- Cleaning of church before/after each service
- Ushers to help facilitate social distancing before, during, and after services

12) Would any of the following be useful in making your final decision to attend services in person in the near future (check all that apply)?

- Online or telephone meeting led by WUMC CRT/BOT to go over plans and answer questions
- Ability to submit questions to WUMC CRT/BOT online or by e-mail
- Ability to call and discuss concerns in private with Lay Leader
- Other. Please specify: _____

13) Please provide any questions, comments or suggestions you have regarding resuming in-person worship:

Part 2: Online Worship and Remote Fellowship

Online and remote worship and fellowship is likely to be an essential component of WUMC's ministries now and into the future. As such, please consider and respond to the following questions to help us improve these capabilities.

1) Are you aware that our Sunday services are broadcast online in video format and on the telephone in audio only format?

- Yes – I am aware of video broadcast
- Yes – I am aware of audio (telephone) broadcast
- Yes – I am aware of both broadcast options
- No – I am not aware of either broadcast option

2) Have you been watching the video broadcast of our Sunday services?

- Yes, every Sunday
- Yes, 1 to 3 times per month
- Only occasionally
- No

3) How do you typically access the video broadcast?

- WUMC Website
- Facebook
- Instagram
- Not applicable – I don't watch the video broadcast

- 4) How satisfied are you with the video broadcast service (starting Good Friday, April 10th after technical difficulties were addressed)?**
- Very Satisfied
 - Somewhat Satisfied
 - Not Satisfied
 - Not Applicable – I have not seen any
- 5) What suggestions do you have for improving the video broadcast?**
-
- 6) When do you typically watch the video service broadcast?**
- During the premier at 10:30am on Sunday morning
 - At my convenience
 - I do not watch the video broadcasts
 - Other, please specify: _____
- 7) Have you listened to the audio-only (telephone) broadcast of our Sunday services?**
- Yes, every Sunday
 - Yes, 1 to 3 times per month
 - I only call-in occasionally
 - No
- 8) How satisfied are you with the audio-only telephone broadcast given the current situation (starting Good Friday, April 10th after technical difficulties were addressed)?**
- Very Satisfied
 - Somewhat Satisfied
 - Not Satisfied
 - Not Applicable – I have not called in
- 9) What suggestions do you have for improving the audio-only broadcast?**
-
- 10) If you regularly call into the audio-only broadcast, what prevents you from watching the video broadcast online?**
- I prefer audio only
 - Lack of computer, smart phone or internet access
 - Need training to access online video worship service
 - Not applicable – I already watch the video broadcasts
- 11) Have you participated in remote Fellowship Hour (check all that apply)?**
- Yes on Sunday
 - Yes on Wednesday
 - No
 - I was not aware of the remote Fellowship Hour, but am interested in participating
 - I was not aware of the remote Fellowship Hour, but am NOT interested in participating

12) What changes would make it more likely that you would participate in remote Fellowship Hour (check all that apply)?

- Different day/time
- Different format (e.g., more structure, daily devotion, prayer time)
- Other, please specify: _____
- Not applicable – I already participate or have no interest

13) Please provide any other suggestions for improving remote services and fellowship

Part 3: Demographics (optional)

Please answer the following questions to help us to better understand the number of people who will likely attend in-person worship services under New Your Annual Conference guidelines (see Survey Introduction for guidelines)

1) Please select your age range:

- < 13
- 13 – 20
- 21 – 35
- 36 – 50
- 51 – 65
- > 65

2) Please indicate number of family members that are likely to attend worship services in person while the NYAC Phase 1 guidelines are in effect. PLEASE ENSURE THAT ONLY ONE MEMBER OF THE FAMILY/HOUSEHOLD ANSWERS THIS QUESTION.

- 0
- 1
- 2
- 3
- 4
- 5
- Other: _____

3) Thank you for taking the time to complete this survey. Please feel free to provide any additional questions, comments or suggestions below: