



June 12, 2020

Re-opening for In-Person Worship Information

Beginning on June 21, 2020

Our primary concern is to open safely! Our plan fulfills the requirements of the Virginia Conference Handbook provided by our Bishop Sharma Lewis. The plan includes guidance from Center for Disease Control and Reopen Virginia Plan. It is not our intention to infringe on anyone's right to worship.

Healthy Church Team: The Healthy Church Team was tasked to create a Plan for re-opening the church in a safe manner. The team members include Pastor Clark, Robert Howard (Lay Leader), Jan Taylor (Church Council Chair), Russ Fink (Trustee), Linda Huff (Kids Day Out & Stratford Preschool), Elizabeth Barnett (Children's Ministry), Abbie Koke (Youth Ministry), and Wendy Howard (Communications)

Reopening Date – Targeting June 21, 2020 at 11am in the Sanctuary

- Streaming of Worship will continue via Facebook and You Tube
- Elderly (65+) and Vulnerable (underlying medical conditions) are encouraged to continue to worship online.
- Children 7 and older are welcome to attend with a face covering.
- No Nursery

What do I need to do prior to in-person worship?

Prior to Attending Worship

- **Health Acknowledgement Form** provided in the Virginia Conference Handbook will need to be completed prior to attending in-person worship. This form will be provided to you and asks the standard questions related to COVID-19 Exposure including travel, symptoms, contact, and testing. In order to maintain confidentiality, the form will be reviewed and maintained by the Pastor only. The form must be filled out each week prior to attending worship. We encourage you to fill it electronically via the link we will provide.
- In-person **Registration Form** – The Registration Form that indicates your intention to attend the service on Sunday, must be submitted by Wednesday at 8pm. This will help us to ensure that we are in compliance with the capacity requirements related to social distancing.

What can I expect the day of worship?

Prior to leaving home Health Check:

- Stay Home if you are **Sick!**
- **Temperature Checks** – Take your temperature at home prior to leaving for worship. It must be below 100.4F to attend in-person worship.
- **Mask** – Bring your mask with you.
- Bring **hand sanitizer** with you.

Arriving for Worship:

- Park in the paved parking lot only.
- Observe 6ft social distancing when exiting your car.

Entering the Building:

- Place your **mask** on your face prior to leaving your car.
- Enter the building through the **designated doors only**. The doors will be marked with “**Enter Here**” Signs. We are anticipating using the glass double doors off the back-parking lot, and the Administrative double doors off the front parking lot.
- Observe the **Social Distancing floor decals** to ensure 6ft of distancing and other COVID-19 Reminder Posters.
- Proceed to a **Greeter/Ambassador** that will help to seat you.
- No handshaking or hugging.
- Coffee service will be suspended.
- Observe the restroom social distancing requirements. (Skip this sink and stall signs)
- Greeter/Ambassador must ask persons if they have turned in a Health Acknowledgement form.

Seating:

- **Social Distancing** – Observe the “Skip this Seat” designations to ensure that 6ft of social distancing can be maintained. Family units will be permitted to sit together.

During Worship:

- **Wearing of Mask Required** – Bring your mask with you as you will be required to wear it at all times. Parents will be responsible for ensuring that children 7 and above wear their masks.
- **No Congregational Singing** – You may hum or say the words. The use of hymnals, bibles and shared materials will be suspended. All books and materials have been removed from the back of the pews and in the hospitality center.

- **Communion** will be administered in accordance with Bishop Lewis' Communion protocol found in the Handbook. This includes picking up a prepackaged communion set when departing the church, taking communion in your vehicle, and disposing of the trash at home.
- **Offering plates** will be available at the main entry doors to the sanctuary. Please place your offering here as no plates will be passed.

After Worship:

- Greeters/Ambassadors will **dismiss worshipers by row**.
- No coffee service will be provided
- Observe the restroom social distancing requirements. (Skip this sink and stall signs)
- Observe social distancing when leaving the parking lot.

Enforcement

What will the church do to enforce these requirements, rules, protocols, and guidelines?

In the event an attendee fails to follow these requirements, rules, protocols, and guidelines, including, but not limited to, the requirements for pre-worship self-monitoring, pre-registration, parking rules, facility use, and physical social distancing (stay 6 feet or more away from others), that attendee will be denied access and/or asked to leave. If an attendee refuses to abide by the rules after being asked to do so, the church must immediately end the service and send all attendees home. The person that violates the requirements, rules, protocols, and guidelines will not be allowed back on church property until he/she agrees to comply with all of the requirements, rules, protocols, and guidelines. The health and safety of our churches is the utmost priority, and ensuring everyone abides by the requirements, rules, protocols, and guidelines help protect everyone's health and safety.

When will Childcare & Nursery Service Resume?

- We are currently waiting on guidance from our District Superintendent related to providing limited childcare service.

What can I expect when I Volunteer?

Volunteers:

- We encourage those in the elderly (65+) or vulnerable groups (underlying medical conditions) to wait until Stage 3 to volunteer.
- All volunteers will:
 - o Wear masks.
 - o Observe social distancing requirements.
 - o Practice healthy hygiene including handwashing with soap and water for 20 seconds will be encouraged, appropriately covering coughs and

sneezes, and avoiding touching one's face. Hand sanitizing stations will also be set up.

- Wear disposable gloves when deemed necessary.

How is the Church being Cleaned?

Cleaning:

- A detailed cleaning plan has been outlined in our Healthy Church Plan
- Vernon will be required to clean and disinfect all areas (e.g., offices, bathrooms, and common areas), focusing especially on frequently touched surfaces.
- Only one in-person worship service will be offered so that cleaning between worship services will not be required.
- Our supplier Birsch has recommended that we use special disinfecting products where appropriate. Chlorinated Disinfecting Tablets are added to the water for cleaning all the common surfaces and doors / handles.

When will Sunday School Resume?

- In Stage 2, at this time we will not hold in-person Sunday School.
- Digital or Zoom based Sunday School will continue until Phase 3.

What about Small Groups?

- All small groups, bible studies, UMW, youth and children's groups will continue to meet via Zoom Video Conferencing during Stage 2 unless Bishop Lewis approves a policy in the Handbook.

What about Committee Meetings?

- All committees will continue to meet via Zoom Video Conferencing during Stage 2.

How will I Receive Communication?

- The forms will also be placed on our website on the "COVID-19" page.
- Weekly, on Mondays, the Health Acknowledgement Form will be sent to you via MailChimp, US Mail, Facebook, and Instagram Pages. You will need to submit the registration form by Wednesday at 8pm.
- The Health Forms will only be viewed by Pastor Clark.