

Usher responsibilities

- Ushers remain in the sanctuary
- Make sure we have enough bulletins. If we are running low, alert the staff to make additional bulletins. At the end of service, place extra bulletins in the office on the counter opposite of the copier.
- Offering plate on the table with the bulletins. Place offering in the safe after the service.
- Record attendance.
- At the end of the service, we would like the ushers to dismiss the congregation so we don't all just get up and go at the same time. Start from the back and dismiss one pew at a time.
- Explain that we suggest six feet between families. Families can be made up of nonrelated households. If people don't distance during the week, we don't expect them to distance at church. We don't expect you to police the seating. Just encourage people. The tape is every three feet and can be used as a guide for spacing.
- If we fill up, we can set up overflow seating in the narthex or in the Bosshardt room. We can put the livestream of the service on the TV in the Bosshardt room. We're not ready yet to open up the pews that are roped off (see FAQ).
- Please pass along feedback to the staff by leaving a note in the mailboxes in the office.

Greeter responsibilities

- Greeters remain in the Narthex.
- Open the doors 15 minutes before the start of worship. Feel free to block the doors open, weather permitting, to reduce the additional contact with the doors.
- Warmly welcome people without contact.
- Offer masks for people that do not have them.
- We will have signs leading up to the front door to set expectations for social distancing and masking. We don't expect you to police people's compliance or confront persons.
- Answer questions (see FAQ)
- Help ushers with additional seating if needed.
- Remind people that the rest of the building is still closed out of respect for the work and sacrifice the Early Childhood Center has been doing caring for children throughout the pandemic. Once they begin to open up, we will be ready to open up the rest of the church.
- Bathrooms are open.
- Encourage people to be seated in the sanctuary right away.
- Encourage people after the service to exit the building so we can begin the sanitizing process.
- Please pass along feedback to the staff by leaving a note in the mailboxes in the office.

If people give you a hard time about our level of caution, remind them that we have a member who lost her daughter to COVID only a month ago, and this week we had a young family call to ask about our protocol because she would like their baby baptized, but due to asthma concerns with their other child, they're not comfortable returning to public worship. Also offer to get their name and number so a pastor can be in contact with them.

FAQs

When will we be able to stop wearing masks? As long as things continue to get better, masks will be optional beginning in July.

When will the Chancel Choir return? We are planning on having the choir return on our Homecoming Sunday, Sept 12th.

When will the Praise Team return? We're working on it. There are some challenges that we are working through. Hopefully before the end of the summer. We'll keep you updated.

Where are the hymnals? Due to sanitizing, we are protecting the hymnals by not leaving them in the pews. If you would like to check one out, they are currently in the library, but we ask you to bring it back and forth from home until we are ready to restock the pews.

What kind of sanitizing solution are we using? It's called Pure Green 24. It's all natural, EOA approved, none of the parts of the solution are considered hazardous by OSHA. It's supposed to be odor free and non staining.

When will we open up the pews that are roped off? If all of the reports continue to be encouraging, we may begin to open up some of the pews in the back. We will keep some of the pews in the front of the sanctuary spaced throughout the summer for persons needing the extra assurance that comes with social distancing.

When will we open up for indoor fellowship? The Reopening Committee will continue to monitor the situation. Part of the consideration is the need we perceive to sanitize between services. Part of the consideration is the Early Childhood Center and our decision to open up the building for outside groups during the week. We are hoping by our Homecoming Sunday on September 12.

Is the church open during the week? By appointment. The church doors will remain locked during the week until we are ready to open the doors for the Early Childhood Center. Don't hesitate to call the office if you'd like to meet with one of the staff or spend time in the sanctuary during the week.

Why are we living in Fear rather than Faith? Our response is not about fear. It is an acknowledgement of the risks inherent with COVID. We rejoice things are turning around, but we believe we are serving our community by reopening cautiously. With children unable to protect themselves with vaccination, we want to send the message that we are willing to sacrifice some inconvenience or discomfort to keep our children safe. Faith sometimes calls us to sacrifice out of love, not just to do what is convenient.

Are the bathrooms open? Yes.

Is there a nursery or childcare? Currently the childcare is limited to children of staff. Children are always welcome in worship. If people are looking for childcare during worship, please pass that feedback along to the staff.

Can we go to other parts of the building other than the Narthex, Sanctuary, or Bathrooms? Not at this time. Currently, the Early Childhood Center has limited access to even parents during the week. We are not ready to sanitize other areas of the building every weekend.

Is there a place we can sit that won't be posted on the livestream? The best place to sit if this is a concern is in the back corners of the sanctuary or in the Narthex.

Can we sing during worship? We are not going to encourage singing as there has been evidence that singing can increase the chances that airborne illness can be shared. We will not stop you from singing.

Why don't the worship leaders have to wear masks? This is a question that your leaders struggle with. They want to encourage mask wearing, but this is difficult for our members that have a difficult time understanding when they can not see the lips of the leaders.