

# **Reopening After Stay-at-Home Orders are Lifted**

## **Leading Up to Resumption of Services**

1. Small planning team to create procedures required to re-open sanctuary.
2. Communicate plans to congregation (email, texts, phone calls, etc).
3. Encourage elderly, ill, and at-risk groups to stay home.
4. Develop plan for video alternative to live worship for those at risk.
5. Review CDC recommendations (masks, washed hands, hand sanitizer, etc.).
6. Develop signage of protocols for safety requirements.
7. To limit contagion risk, rope-off some pews for staggered seating.
8. Create sanitation teams for cleaning church prior to both services.

## **Before Service**

1. Sanitation teams begin wiping bathrooms, door handles before both services.
2. Prop open all doors to limit touching door handles (other than restrooms).
3. Coffee and Conversation remains closed for foreseeable future.
4. Identify hand sanitizer stations in building (currently there are 3).
5. Institute staggered seating requirements (cord off 2 pews between each used pew).
6. Greeter welcomes people and reminds them of safe procedures.

## **During Service**

1. No nursery or children's classes (children stay with family – cry room for emergencies only).
2. Enforce social distancing by limiting available pew space (some pews roped-off / 5 people per row).
3. Platform participants model social distancing while avoiding sharing microphones, instruments, stands, etc.
4. No choir (foreseeable future), rather lead sing team (2-3 people) / congregation sings along softly.
5. Service length should be shorter than normal to reduce exposure / record service for evening release.
6. No offering plates passed (stewardship stations at front and back of sanctuary).
7. Nothing in pews (Bibles, hymnals, attendance pads, etc). Use bulletins for words to litanies and hymns.
8. Structured dismissal by section allowing people to leave in smaller groups (no congregating in lobby area).

## **After Service**

1. Cleaning team goes through pews and chancel to sanitize sanctuary (also handrails/elevator/bathrooms).
2. Bulletins that remain are discarded and church is locked.

*To illustrate our sanctuary's COVID-friendly guidelines,  
see the July 12, 2020 worship service photo on the following page.*

