



Guidelines for Gathering Safely for Worship

Creston Church

To help slow the spread of the virus, when conducting services in person, Creston will:

1. Encouraging attendees age 65 and older to stay home.
2. Ask all attendees with underlying health conditions to remain at home.
3. Require any attendee to stay home if they have had a fever within 72 hours, have a cough, or have had contact with someone diagnosed with COVID-19 within the previous 14 days.
4. This group will be capped at 25% of fixed seating (45 people) per service using a sign-up sheet.
5. Someone must maintain a list of each person entering and take each person's temperature.
6. Require anyone in attendance to wear a face mask or covering.¹
7. Keep nursery and on-site children's ministries closed until we are able to comply with current CDC recommendations for child care facilities. No nursery, Little Lambs, or Children's Worship until schools² open. However, children are free to attend the worship in the sanctuary, but must stay with their parents/guardians at all times.
8. Limit building access to a short time before and after the activity and allow access only to places where proper social distancing can be maintained.
9. Sanitize seating, restrooms, and other high-touch areas like door handles before and after each service following guidelines set by the CDC. High-touch areas in the church entrance, including door handles³ should be sanitized during the service to prepare for the congregation's departure.
10. When possible increase circulation of outdoor air by opening windows and doors and using fans.
11. Refrain from passing collection plates.
12. Hymnals and Bibles will be available in a limited capacity.
13. Find alternative ways to administer the sacraments that do not include the same surfaces or violate social distancing orders.
14. Provide hand sanitizer, masks and signage with these guidelines at entrances and throughout the building.
15. Provide virtual means to fellowship, both after the service and other times.

16. No refreshments (Coffee/food) will be served at church.
17. Encourage individuals to practice social (physical) distancing in line with recommendations from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC)—individuals should remain at least six feet from people from outside the individual's household to the extent feasible during the service, but also while entering and exiting. Creston will rope off every other row in the sanctuary.

Regarding Creston's staff and volunteers, Creston will:

1. Provide and require face masks or coverings.
2. Require staff and volunteers to stay home if they are feeling ill—a fever in the last 72 hours, cough, or other symptoms—or have come in contact with anyone who has been sick in the last 14 days.
3. Maintain a minimum 6' distance between all volunteers and staff members including musicians.
4. Encourage members who have been fully vaccinated to serve as volunteers.

¹ Social/physical distancing of 6 feet is still necessary, even when wearing a face covering.

² Guidance for Child Care Programs that Remain Open (CDC):

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/community/schools-childcare/guidance-for-childcare.html>

³ Cleaning and Disinfecting Your Facility (CDC):

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/community/disinfecting-building-facility.html>