



## On-Site Reopening Plan

As we put guidelines in place for resuming on-site activities, we want to provide some brief reminders about how we handle different opinions and perspectives in a time like this. As we have heard from the congregation, we understand that opinions range widely on how to approach on-site worship again. Whether you are ready to be in worship right away, or you will wait until later in the summer, this is not an issue of right or wrong, sin or obedience. We are all trying to figure out the best way forward that fits with our own conscience, and we do not want to give the impression that we are viewing individual perspectives as right or wrong. We are simply trying to navigate a difficult path.

Though we differ on this, we all are committed to the unity of the body and the love Jesus calls us to exhibit. Let us try to keep Paul's words about love in the forefront of our thoughts and actions through this process:

Love is patient and kind; love does not envy or boast; it is not arrogant or rude. It does not insist on its own way; it is not irritable or resentful; it does not rejoice at wrongdoing, but rejoices with the truth. Love bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things. (1 Corinthians 13:4-7)

As we approach this issue, please remember that love "does not insist on its own way." Please reflect on the concern of others in this situation and not just your needs or your desires. If we can keep that before us, we will do well and continue to love one another.

### **Immediate Plan**

1. **Open Friday recordings to 50 people** – Currently Riveroaks records the video for Sunday on Friday at 2:00pm because recording then allows the work of editing to be done on Saturday, and then the video is posted late Saturday evening or early Sunday morning. We will use this as an option for those who want to gather for worship and prayer. There is a sign-up sheet connected to the email, and we will have 50 people join that Friday service. If you wish to join that service, we ask that you abide by the guidelines we have established in this document.

2. **Open the church building to small groups** – We are also ready to open up the church building for groups of 10 that can meet for prayer and study in the fellowship hall. You will also find a link to a sign-up sheet so we can coordinate this appropriately and clean afterwards. If you have a question about this, please reach out to the church.
3. **Encourage members to engage each other** – It is critical that we take advantage of our own small groups at this time. Ministry is not just in the hands of the leaders of the church, but also in the hands of the members of the church. Please seek out the opportunity to minister to one another in various ways.

## **General Guidelines**

- In accordance with CDC guidelines, individuals in at-risk groups are encouraged to remain at home and join us for worship online. This group includes persons over the age of 65, those who have health issues that make them vulnerable to COVID-19, such as cardiovascular issues, obesity, and high blood pressure, those who are sick, running a fever, or showing signs of illness, as well as those on medications that suppress the immune system.
- The Friday service will consist of the regular order of worship we have been using during this time, but it will not include singing. The music has been pre-recorded.
- The nursery will not be open during this time, so we would ask that if you have young children under the age of 5, please wait until we are able to provide that ministry to you. If you bring your children, please make sure they wear a mask too, and speak to them about the way this service will be different from previous services.
- We have created a way for you to sign up for the Friday service and allow us to rotate through people who want to attend. Please sign up only once during this current phase.

## **On-site Practices**

- At this point, please bring your own masks to the building as masks are required. Masks help prevent the spread of this virus, so we want to take all the precautions we can. Only the minister will not have a mask on while he leads and preaches.
- Observe social distancing guidelines that maintain a social distance of 6 feet between yourself and others outside your family unit.
- Please make use of the hand sanitizer located at the entrance of the sanctuary.
- Restrooms will be open for emergency cases. Please use the restroom before coming to the church if possible.
- The order of worship will be placed in pews, which will designate the seating within the sanctuary. We will space these out appropriately.