

COVID- 19 Resuming Indoor Worship Service Guidelines

Revised 9/1/20

As we continue to seek wisdom for how to love our neighbors and promote the well-being of all, the following guidelines have been put together thoughtfully and prayerfully. The guidelines are in alignment with the United Methodist Western PA Conference, local, state, and federal public health and safety guidelines.

- 1. As we welcome you back, you must wear a mask while you are in the church. Cloth face coverings should not be placed on children younger than 2 years old. If you cannot mask, we ask you to stay home and continue to worship online.**
- 2. Prior to entering the church, you will be asked the following questions outside:**
 - a. Do you have flu-like symptoms – fever, cough, shortness of breath?**
 - b. In the past two weeks have you or a close contact tested positive for the Covid-19 virus?**

c.

Are you or a close contact waiting for Covid-19 virus test?

d. Have you traveled out of the state (to a current hot spot as designated by the CDC) or country within the last 14 days?

e. Your name for the contact tracing list

(If you answer yes to any of the first 4, you will not be permitted to enter the church. If you are ill, it is suggested that you see your physician for evaluation and possible testing for Covid-19.)

- 3. At the main front door (which will be propped open or opened for you by a worship helper), or the handicapped door into the Welcome Center, your temperature will be taken. If your temperature is 100.4 or higher, you will not be permitted in. If your temperature is normal, you will proceed through the Welcome Center to the Sanctuary following the direction of the ushers and the 'lines' on the floor. 'Lines' on the floor in the Welcome Center and Sanctuary will serve as visual reminders of physical distancing.**
- 4. Please apply hand sanitizer to your hands (dispensers are located as you come into the Welcome Center and Sanctuary area).**
- 5. It will be great to see everyone! We are requesting that you refrain from handshaking and hugging. Give a fun wave!**
- 6. Upon entering the Sanctuary, an usher will lead you to your seat. Couples and families may sit together. We will fill the seats beginning with the seats in the front and working our way to the back and into the Welcome Center. We will be**

physical distancing side-to-side and front-to-back. This will mean that some seats will not be available for sitting.

7. We are requesting that you make a reservation for indoor worship by noon on Friday to ensure that we have enough space in the Sanctuary and Welcome Center to maintain physical distancing. Please let us know if you will need to use the handicap entrance. If you are unable to make a reservation, we will have a limited overflow area to accommodate you. You can make reservations by phoning the church office at 724-941-4770 or by emailing uthguy2@verizon.net.

When we reach our “full” maximum occupancy in the Sanctuary and Welcome Center with physical distancing in place, no other people will be admitted. Other options for worship include outdoor worship at 11 am or listening in your car with the radio dial tuned to FM 89.5, or watching the service online on Facebook or on trinitymcmurrayumc.org.

8. The coffee bar and water fountains are closed until further notice.
9. An offering plate will be available as you exit.
10. The worship service is paperless. Bring your own Bible with you. Singing and playing wind and brass instruments will not be permitted. Study guides are emailed weekly with the announcements. To be added to Trinity’s email list for weekly announcements, please contact Eileen at the church office or email at eileenglass2@verizon.net
11. It is recommended that all who speak during the service do so with low volume. This reduces saliva particles in the air.
12. At the conclusion of the worship service, the ushers will excuse worshippers by row through the designated door of the Sanctuary. Please let the usher know if you would like to exit through the handicap door at the back of the Welcome Center, and they will usher you in that direction. Please maintain physical distancing as you leave. Please do not congregate in the building. While on the outside church grounds, please maintain the appropriate physical distancing.
13. The restrooms will be open for your use for one person at a time. When finished in the restroom, please wash hands with the provided soap for at least 20 seconds. Please maintain physical distancing in these areas as well.
14. Please do not go into other areas of the church, such as downstairs, the nursery or the church office.
15. The nursery and children’s Sunday school have been placed on hold. Families are encouraged to worship together.

- 16. Ken West will prepare a list of worship attendees. This list would only be used for contact tracing and would not be released unless requested by the State Department of Health.**
- 17. Trinity's custodians will do a thorough cleaning and disinfecting prior to the next gathering.**
- 18. At any time, these guidelines may be modified and the church building may be closed again to ensure the safety of everyone and manage the risks related to Covid-19.**

We appreciate your help in making this a safe, enjoyable, and uplifting return to indoor worship in our church. Also, we appreciate your understanding as some may not be comfortable coming back into the church building yet. We know that you will continue to keep open hearts, open minds, and open doors (maybe not literally during the pandemic, but always spiritually) to sharing God's love with all people.