

# **Covid-19 Back to Church Plan**

On March 16, we suspended normal events, meetings, worship services, and groups due to the Covid-19 pandemic. Since then, our Moderator Team (made up of Moderator Mollie Erickson, Vice Moderator Cathy Watson, Past Moderator Peg Rosine-Levinson, Associate Pastor Brooke Anthony, and Senior Pastor Dave Yonker) has been planning for the resuming of in-person events and activities.

We have worked in consultation with our Board of Directors, our Parish Nurse, Joann Prosser, other health care professionals in our congregation, and drawn from resources and guidelines from the Centers for Disease Control and our Disciples of Christ denomination.

Overall, we institute these guidelines because we are called to love our neighbors as ourselves. It has been our desire to keep our congregation safe throughout this pandemic. It will be strange reentering the building in this way because it won't be what we know and love about our church, but by taking these steps we are slowly moving back to worship that we have come to cherish and love.

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Here's what to expect when we initially reenter the building:

## **Worship**

If you are not feeling well or have had an elevated fever, please continue to worship with us online from home.

**Worship will take place at 8:30 am (Traditional), 10:00 am (Contemporary), 11:30 am (Contemporary)**

Seating capacity will be limited in the sanctuary; alternate rooms will be set up for viewing the worship stream. Families will be allowed to sit together. However, you may not get your favorite pew.

Because of the limited seating capacity, reservations will be taken each week by calling 319-754-7140 (Monday - Thursday; 8:30 am - 4:00 pm) or on [www.burlingtondoc.org](http://www.burlingtondoc.org).

To maintain social distancing, every other pew will be used. Ushers will be ready to assist in seating for proper spacing.

Doors will be opened for entry into the sanctuary 15 minutes before worship is scheduled. This allows for the sanctuary to be cleaned before and after each service.

Masks shall be worn at all times while in the church building (either bring your own from home or use one from the church)

The CDC and professional musical organizations do not recommend congregational singing at this time. Humming quietly will be allowed but singing as a congregation leads to a higher risk of transmission.

During the Meet and Greet time, we will offer

elbow bumps and friendly waves, instead of handshakes and hugs.

Communion and Offering will look differently as the trays won't be passed and we won't come forward to receive the elements. Prepacked communion will be on a table as you enter the sanctuary for you to pick up on your way in. (\*this communion is not gluten free\*) Likewise, offering trays will be at the back of the sanctuary.

There won't be Children's Church, children's Sunday School or the Nursery until later in the fall. We invite children to worship with their families in the pews. There will be children's worship bulletins available to pick up and take home each week. No materials will be reused by other families.

The sanctuary will be cleaned in between each worship service.

## **Classes and Fellowship**

One of the best parts about church is gathering and visiting, however gathering for conversations either before or after worship will be discouraged when we initially reenter the building. You are more than welcome to continue the conversation outside the building.

There won't be coffee fellowship when we initially reenter the building.

Adult school classes are welcome to meet, as long as proper social distancing guidelines are taken.

Hand sanitizer will be available in the pews and at the Welcome Center.