

Reopening Guidelines For Mountainside

In addition to our services being offered online, we are thankful to begin providing an opportunity to worship in person on Sunday, July 5th. We ask by prayer and wisdom that you decide the best venue for you and your family to worship at this time. May we all do our part to come back together safely and responsibly as possible.

The following are the guidelines and instructions for in-person services. Please remember this is the first step in getting back together. We understand there are aspects of this plan that are less than what we desire church gatherings to be, but we pray this will simply be the beginning of better things to come.

Thank you for your grace, support and love during this difficult time.

1. Please carefully consider your personal health and the health of others:

If answer YES to any of these questions, please stay home:

- * Have you been in close contact with a confirmed case of COVID-19?
- * Are you experiencing a cough, shortness of breath, or a sore throat?
- * Have you had a fever in the last 48 hours?
 - ** Fever defined as a temperature above 100.4 degrees
- * Have you experienced any loss of taste or smell?
- * Have you had vomiting or diarrhea in the last 24 hours?

We also encourage those persons at high risk for COVID-19 to continue to watch services online and not attend services at this time. High risk individuals include:

- * People 65 or older
- * People of all ages with underlying medical conditions, particularly if not well controlled including:
 - ** People with chronic lung disease or moderate to severe asthma
 - ** People who have serious heart conditions
 - ** People who are immunocompromised:

Many conditions can cause a person to be Immunocompromised, including cancer treatment, smoking, bone marrow or organ transplantation, immune deficiencies, poorly controlled HIV or AIDS, and prolonged use of corticosteroids and other immune system weakening medication.

- ** People with severe obesity (body mass index [BMI] of 40 or higher)
- ** People with diabetes
- ** People with chronic kidney disease undergoing dialysis

2. We encourage each family to do what they believe is best for them and others around them with attending church activities. We believe that church-connection is essential whether it is online or in person. IF YOU DON'T BELIEVE IT'S RIGHT FOR YOU AND YOUR FAMILY TO ATTEND IN PERSON AT THIS TIME, PLEASE STAY HOME. Just because the option for in-person services and activities are available, it does not necessarily mean you should attend. We will continue to work hard to provide services and teaching online, as well as continuing to look for other ways to connect with one another.

LIVESTREAM OF THE SUNDAY 10:00AM SERVICE WILL BE AVAILABLE EACH SUNDAY.
(The Sunday service will also be streamed the following Saturday evening at 7pm.)

3. Services will currently be a max of 125 people.

(25% of occupancy of Auditorium, Café overflow and Lobby overflow)

- * Service will be Sunday morning at 10am.
- * Please reserve your spot(s) by clicking the link provided.

**Please communicate with us if your plans change after Friday since we have limited spots available for each service.

* Please arrive no earlier than 10 minutes before the service and only use the main lobby doors and handicap entrance.

* We ask for no prolonged congregating at this time.

4. We ask if anyone shows any signs of COVID-19 after attending a service, they contact the office immediately. (518.532.7128)

* There will be a list of all attendees for each service so we can communicate to everyone who attended if anyone shows signs of being sick.

5. We ask for everyone to wear masks while arriving and leaving. (Extra masks will be available at the entrance).

*We also ask for masks to be worn when humming or singing softly during the worship time.

*We will not require masks during the preaching because the seating will be socially distanced.

Please remember that masks help keep OTHERS healthy. Let's go the extra mile to show preference to others.

6. Hand cleaner will be available at the entrance and in multiple places.

7. Please do not shake hands, touch or hug individuals at this time. We will adhere to social spacing guidelines. Please keep 6 feet of physical distance from people besides your family/seating group.

8. The chairs will be set up with plenty of spacing between the rows. Our volunteers will assist you in finding the seating section reserved for you. Families with children will be seated in sections that also have a table available for them to use during the service.

9. There is no nursery, Children's Church or Sunday School at this time. Activity bags will be provided.

10. Bathrooms are emergency use only.

11. There will be no handouts of any kind.

12. There will be an offering box located at the entrance/exit.

13. The church has been deep cleaned and surfaces will be wiped down between services. Windows and doors will be left open to help air flow.

14. We have closed off the lower level of the auditorium and the Youth Center at this time.

15. There will be a host at the entrance if you have questions

Thank you for your grace and flexibility as we work through all of this for the first time. We are sure, we will be able to make adjustments and improvements week by week and will do our best to communicate those changes. Please contact any of the pastors or leadership team if you have any concerns or questions.