

Northside Safety Guidelines for Inside Worship

What to Expect on Sunday

Dear Northside Congregation and Friends,

We are excited and delighted to be coming back inside for worship this Sunday, September 27th at 9:00am.

Although we have enjoyed the change of pace (and mostly beautiful weather) with the drive-in service, we miss the face-to-face interactions and community that come with worshipping inside.

Over the summer, Session has been wrestling with and prayerfully considering the right time to come inside. We have carefully reviewed CDC and Ohio Department of Health guidelines as well as prayed a lot for our brothers and sisters in Christ who have been touched by COVID-19.

Below are the guidelines and protocols we will be following while we worship inside. This is the result of hours and hours of discussion and prayer from Session, our staff, and other leaders of Northside on the best way to keep everyone safe during these unusual times.

1. Chairs in the sanctuary will be situated in a way that family groups will be spaced 6 feet apart to maintain proper social distancing.
2. Masks will be required for adults and children (Kindergarten and older) while in the building. Masks will need to be worn at all times, even when singing. The only exception is the worship leader and preacher while worshipping and preaching.
3. The ushers and greeters will be stationed outside on the front porches prior to service to check everyone's temperature before entering the building and to offer a mask if needed. For anyone that has a temperature above 100.4 F, they will be asked to worship in their car or at home. There will also be greeters in the lobby to help guide everyone to the sanctuary, to answer questions, and help ensure everyone is following the safety guidelines.
4. Entry to the sanctuary will be through the main sanctuary entrance (double doors) and exiting will be through the door by the refreshment area. We will be dismissed by rows at the end of service with the back going first.
5. Doors will be propped open to limit touch points and windows will be open when weather permits. Restrooms will be open and there will be signage in place to remind everyone to wash their hands.
6. We will be taking attendance of who attends. This will be done with every family group filling out a connection card and leaving it on your chair, with the usher when you exit, or in the drop box.
7. Worship service length will continue to be around one hour. Fellowship time following the service will be outside (parking lot, prayer garden, etc.).
8. During the 'Children's Moment', children will sit on Velcro dots to stay separated 6 feet apart.
9. Offerings will be able to be done online, in the drop box, or with the ushers at the exit. There will be no passing of the plate/basket during the service.
10. After the service, we will be thoroughly sanitizing the sanctuary, lobby, door handles, restrooms, and other rooms that were used during the service. We also have a professional cleaning service coming into the building to clean and sanitize throughout the week.

11. Nursery care and kid's classes will not be offered until a later date. There will be activity packets available similar to the drive-in service. When classes resume, masks will need to be worn in the classrooms. Youth will continue to meet outside.
12. Bulletins will continue to be published online. Refreshments and coffee will not be served for the time being to limit touch points.

Please know these guidelines are meant for your safety and those most vulnerable among us. We understand it is not comfortable to wear masks and following these protocols may feel awkward and uncomfortable at times. But one of the greatest ministries we can all do is protect those that are most vulnerable and help make everyone feel safe during worship.

While we will do everything we can to keep you safe, we understand if you are not ready to worship inside yet. If that is you, we still want to provide you an opportunity to worship with us. We will continue to broadcast our worship over FM radio just like we were doing with drive-in service if you would prefer to worship with us in the parking lot. We will also be broadcasting our worship over Facebook Live if you prefer to worship with us in the comfort of your own home.

We are thrilled and looking forward to seeing you at worship this Sunday. If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to reach out to us in Session.

Sincerely,

Northside Session Elders

Paul Batterson - pbatterson37@gmail.com | 614-620-5738
Ginny Humphreys - emhdvh@aol.com | 614-580-5419
Wayne Johnson - wjohnson4444@yahoo.com | 614-312-8583
Connie Pridemore - tjmom18@gmail.com | 614-578-6006
Craig Wilson - craigwilson731@gmail.com | 614-537-1472