

Returning to Worship

New Hope United Methodist Church

I. GENERAL:

- A. Please plan to arrive early to worship in order to avoid overloading Ushers before service. Bulletins will be handed out to individuals just before the beginning of service.
- B. If you do not feel well or are uncomfortable with attending in-person worship, please opt for one of the following:
 - 1. Pastor Levi will continue to send links to recorded messages via Facebook and email.
 - 2. Live radio broadcast (FM 89.9) of service will be available from the New Hope parking area. During the 11:00 service, you are welcome to listen in from the parking lot through your car's radio at the radio station listed above.
- C. Masks will be strongly recommended when you enter and exit and especially when we sing. You are asked to bring your own but we will have a limited supply available. Use of masks by children is at the discretion of the parent(s)/caregiver.
- D. Sunday school is suspended until we can safely resume.
- E. We encourage attendees to practice social distancing.
- F. Please limit bathroom use to emergencies.

II. Precautions:

- A. Doors, light switches, pews, and other common surfaces will be sanitized weekly.
- B. Hand sanitizer will be provided in the vestibule.

III. SPACING: Ushers will assist attendees in finding and leaving pews with the following guidelines in mind:

- A. Every-other-pew will be closed.
- B. Families will be seated together on one pew; individuals and small groups will be asked to sit at opposite ends of open pews.
- C. Ushers will honor seating preferences as much as possible.
- D. Overflow seating will be available in the fellowship hall. We have audio and visual equipment in the fellowship hall that enables anyone who is sitting in the fellowship hall to see and hear the service.

- E. Pastor Levi will exit into the parking area during the recessional. Please limit conversations with him to a brief moment in order to avoid a large number of people gathering in wait. Keep in mind, Pastor Levi is available for contact by email and phone.
- F. Please remain seated at the end of service. An Usher will dismiss row-by-row, beginning with the back row.

IV. WORSHIP PRACTICE:

- A. Neither Acolytes nor greeters will be needed until further notice.
- B. Singing - We will sing to the glory of the Lord. Masks are strongly recommended for those who want to sing during congregational hymns. Hymnals will not be available in pews but lyrics will be shown on the TV screen.
- C. Scripture - B.Y.O.Bible. Bibles will not be available in pews. Scripture will be shown on the TV screen.
- D. Offerings will be collected at the end of service in the vestibule.

*** These guidelines will be revisited periodically for needed revisions. Please be patient as we work through these unprecedented circumstances.