

# Safety Measures for In-Person Worship

We had planned to begin in-person worship on July 12. But now, as of June 29, we have exponentially-increasing COVID-19 cases, new guidance from the governor, a request from the bishop to wait on holding in-person worship, and a delay in receipt of our new air purifying systems. So out of an abundance of caution for the safety of our congregation, Council has determined there will be no in-person worship until further notice. This article describes the planned safety measures for when we do resume in-person worship.

- CDC and local guidelines and instructions for gatherings will be followed: face masks required for all attendees, 6-foot distancing, wellness checks as people arrive, and requiring use of hand sanitizer immediately upon entry into the Fellowship Hall (FH).
- Surfaces will be thoroughly sanitized before and after all worship services.
- An enhanced air purification system is being installed. See **Additional Information** below.

## Before Worship Services

- Chairs, tables, and all hard surfaces (such as door handles) will be sanitized at least one hour before each worship service. We have some new equipment to help streamline this process.
- Ushers, and perhaps others, will be taking temperatures with touchless thermometers at each of the two doors into the FH, asking if you are feeling well, etc.
- Masks will be required for entrance into the FH. Please prepare accordingly. Here are worship alternatives if you can't or don't wish to wear a mask:
  - ◇ You may continue to [worship online](#).
  - ◇ An FM simulcast will reach out for 1,000 feet if you would like to remain in your car on church property for the service.
- Hand sanitizer and sanitizing wipes will be available at the entrance of the FH. We ask that you use the hand sanitizer. The wipes will be available for individual use, as needed.
- FH chairs will be pre-arranged into groups of 2, 4, and 5. Obviously the initial setup will not be perfect, so chairs may have to be moved to accommodate your family. Attend to it yourself, remembering the 6-foot rule, or ask an usher for assistance.

## During Worship Services

- Words for the liturgy and songs will be on the screen.
- As singing out loud is a known spreader event, the songs will be videotaped (just as they are now for online worship) and shown on the screen. We ask that you hum or just read along.
- Communion will be a safe-distancing event. More information on this process will be available soon.
- If you feel overcome by wearing your mask, please feel free to go outside and refresh at any time.

## After Worship Services

- To maintain safe distancing, please allow ushers to show you out, starting with the back rows.
- Please dispose of your wipes, etc., in the trash cans to lessen cleanup for your fellow members.

## Additional Information

- There will be no snacks or drinks provided.
- If you know you are ill or even feel slightly ill, please enjoy worship at your home.
- Triumphant is purchasing and installing an air purification system that will improve air quality, eliminate odors, and remove viruses and bacteria over time. See #2 below.
- There are generally three ways of getting Covid-19:
  1. Surfaces – Cleaning before and after worship.
  2. Air impurity -- Our new air purification system will kill 90% of viruses in about an hour from onset and 100% over time. This is the best system available. It is used in the White House.
  3. Close proximity -- Nothing immediately protects against any of: direct contact, direct sneezing or coughing, or forced air from loud talking or singing if any occur for more than 10 or 15 minutes — even from an asymptomatic person. That is why, in addition to the new air purification system and sanitizing the surfaces, for now we will wear masks, practice safe distancing, and stay home if we feel unwell or unsure.

**So, the word is: SAFETY – SAFETY – SAFETY.  
Let us all enjoy our worship time together,  
but let us also all be smart. Thank you.**

*Your Church Council*