

# Chapel by the Lake Reopening Plan

Adopted by Session – June 18, 2020

## General guideposts for decisionmaking (*Christianity Today*)

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Factors for transmission include:

- **Infectiousness** of a COVID-19 patient
- Actions that **increase the release** of respiratory droplets and aerosols into the surrounding air
- **Proximity** to an infected person (within six feet is considered high risk)
- **Enclosed environment** with limited ventilation to the outside
- **Amount of time** spent with an infected person
- **Type of social network**, e.g. inter-generational mixing

A church plan should strive to:

- **Support members to live out their missional calling**
  - Encourage small groups
  - Meet social, emotional, and spiritual needs
  - Continue Zoom and other virtual connections
- **Encourage “bubbles” of families and those in our same life stage to reduce possibility of transmission**
  - Provide protection against COVID-19
  - Social distance except for families/ “bubbles”
  - Masks for everyone
    - Many carriers are asymptomatic
    - Reduces stigma and disagreement
- **Support the broader effort to contain COVID-19**
  - Prepare to aid with contact tracing
  - Be prepared to change if cases increase

A church plan should achieve the following:

- **RESUME** in-person church activities when there is clear evidence of a declining/low level of infection in the community.
- **REDUCE RISK** of airborne COVID-19 transmission during church activities.
- **RESPOND:**
  - Be able to dial up and dial down church activities as COVID-19 infection in the community waxes and wanes.
  - Be able to rapidly identify contacts with an infected person and help trace them if necessary.

## Reopening Plan

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The reopening plan takes into consideration these primary criteria:

- Recognizing the **diversity of physical and emotional needs of our congregation**, the church values all life and wishes to err on the conservative.
- There have been very few cases of COVID-19 in Juneau, and most positive cases have been linked to LCC or incoming travelers. So, **there is little current transmission** among the general community.
- We have the **resources and desire to be creative and multifaceted** in our fellowship. Online, home, and small group fellowship is encouraged.
- **Active volunteer recruitment is necessary ahead of start dates** to ensure sanitation and mitigation requirements can be fulfilled.
- **Summer is naturally a slower time of activity** at the church, so Sunday school and Wednesday night activities are not expected to reopen until the fall. Session will reevaluate all facility use at each monthly meeting or sooner, as needed.

This plan was adopted by Session at its June 18 meeting. The Worship Committee was tasked by Session to manage the reopening plan. The committee will determine when to open the facility and start in-person services as soon as the following criteria is met:

- Adequate supplies are available for all facility activities
- A cleaning plan that can be followed by all groups using the facility is created and distributed, and
- Volunteers are available to sanitize the facility during and after worship services.

A separate plan is established by Session to allow Family Promise to continue to use the facility.

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Activity	Mitigations
<b>Church-Wide Activities</b>	<p>Requirements for all events in the facility:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Face coverings required unless under age 2 or unable to wear due to disability (State of Alaska rule)</li> <li>▪ Six feet between individuals or bubbles</li> <li>▪ People who have traveled outside Juneau in the previous two weeks are encouraged to worship online for the quarantine period or until a negative COVID-19 test is obtained</li> <li>▪ High-touch areas must be sanitized every hour and after events               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Trustees ensure availability of supplies.</li> <li>▪ Event organizers must identify volunteers to clean at each event, per the cleaning plan</li> </ul> </li> <li>▪ Hand sanitizer must be available in main sanctuary, narthex of both sanctuaries, main building entries, and Smith Hall</li> <li>▪ No refreshments or food service may be prepared onsite or served unless individually packaged</li> <li>▪ Contact tracing</li> </ul> <p>Contact tracing:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Names of attendees (or family groups) at church-sponsored events must be recorded by ushers (worship)/organizers (other activities),</li> <li>• Names will be submitted to the church Office Assistant following the event, and</li> <li>• Will be maintained as <i>private</i> church property.</li> </ul> <p>Education Wing is closed during this first phase of reopening. No child care will be available.</p>
<b>Worship Services</b>	<p>One weekly worship service:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Main sanctuary, narthex, include Smith Hall overflow</li> <li>• Windows opened</li> <li>• Cordon off first few rows in front of pulpit</li> <li>• Close library or establish new rules for use</li> <li>• Only instrumental or special music - no congregational singing</li> <li>• All Bibles, hymnals, and paper will be removed from the main sanctuary. Use projected liturgy and scripture.</li> </ul> <p>Online services will continue and may be live streamed, recorded live, or prerecorded at the pastor’s discretion.</p> <p>Usher training will be necessary to help articulate and fulfill sanitation and mitigation requirements.</p>
<b>Community Facility Use</b>	<p>Open areas of the facility may be utilized by the community. All rules above regarding face coverings, social distancing, and sanitation must be agreed to and followed. This may require Trustees to update the facility use agreement.</p>

**Next steps/needs:**

- **COVID-19 cleaning crew** (Coordinator: Sarah Everett)
  - Recruit volunteers and train them on the cleaning plan
  - Work with business administrator to ensure supplies are ordered and available
- **Usher training** (Coordinator needed)
  - How to collect & store names of attendees/family groups in case contact tracing is needed
  - How to ensure expectations are fulfilled at church-sponsored events (wearing masks, distancing)
- **Ongoing COVID-19 task force** (Coordinator: Sara Chambers)
  - Create and distribute cleaning plan & checklists
  - Evaluate community transmission numbers and other exposure issues
  - Evaluate gaps/concerns/needs in reopening plan, propose adjustments as necessary
- **Childcare** (Coordinator needed)
  - Engage families with young children in childcare discussion
  - Consider cleaning plan, ages, room use, adult oversight, etc.