

Chapel by the Lake COVID Mitigation Plan

Adopted by Session – May 20, 2021

REOPENING CHAPEL BY THE LAKE

WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW BEFORE YOU GO



We believe 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.

This plan is subject to change by vote of Session or as State/CBJ mandates are imposed or lifted.

General guideposts for decision making ([Christianity Today](#))

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
- **Vaccination** rates

Updated Mitigation Plan

A reopening plan was initially adopted by Session at its June 18, 2020, meeting. The Worship Committee was tasked by Session to manage the reopening plan. The committee was empowered to 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.

In late 2020, Session took over the COVID-19 mitigation planning and tasked the Trustees to take over the cleaning plan. A separate plan was established by Session to allow the Family Promise ministry to continue to use the facility.

Considering high vaccination rates and lower transmission rates, the CDC and City and Borough of Juneau relaxed their recommendations in May 2021. This plan is being adopted to recognize these new recommendations cautiously and optimistically, while remaining agile in case of increased spread of COVID-19.

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| Activity | Mitigations |
|---|---|
| <p>General Activities</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Ministries ● Community use ● Private rentals | <p>Requirements for all events in the facility unless otherwise noted:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● City and Borough of Juneau guidelines will be observed. Visit https://juneau.org/covid-19 for specific information. At the time of adoption, this includes: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Masks required for unvaccinated persons 12 and older. ▪ Maintain six-foot social distance unless a family group or “bubble.” ▪ Individuals will not be screened or asked about their vaccination status. We expect church policies to be observed for the health of our congregation. ▪ Masks are not required for outdoor events. ● Individuals who are unvaccinated and who have traveled outside Juneau in the previous two weeks are encouraged to follow state guidance on quarantine and testing. Consider worshipping with us online. Read recommendations at https://covid19.alaska.gov/travelers/. ● Hand sanitizer will be available in main sanctuary, narthex of both sanctuaries, main building entries, and Smith Hall. ● Small ministry groups may share refreshments. If unvaccinated, masks are required unless actively eating/drinking. ● Attendance roster will be offered at the sanitation station at the main entrance to assist with contact tracing. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Recording names of attendees (or family groups) at church-sponsored events will be encouraged by ushers (worship) or organizers (other activities), ▪ Names will be submitted to the church Office Assistant following the event and will be maintained as <i>private</i> church property. |
| <p>Worship Services</p> | <p>Same as above, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Worship held in the main sanctuary with Smith Hall overflow ● Windows opened when practical ● Remove pews to enable social distancing ● Use chairs to create flexible bubbles of one-three people ● Refreshments may be served in Smith Hall if social distancing can be maintained. If unvaccinated, masks are required unless actively eating/drinking. <p>Communion will be served monthly in prepackaged juice cups and wafer packs. Each participant will take their own serving from the table.</p> <p>Online services will continue and may be live streamed, recorded live, or prerecorded at the pastor’s discretion.</p> |

Questions or concerns? Contact the church office at 907-789-7592 or admin@chapelbythelake.org.