

Reopening During Pandemic – CONSIDERATIONS

Goals

- Live out our mission calling
- Meet social, emotional, spiritual needs
- Provide protection from COVID-19
- Support the community effort to control COVID-19

Risk Factors to Consider

- Infectiousness of a COVID-19 patient
- Actions that increase the release of respiratory droplets/aerosols into the surrounding air (singing, raised voices, coughing)
- Proximity to an infected person (within six feet is considered high risk)
- Amount of ventilation with outside air and/or exhaust to outside
- Amount of time spent with an infected person
- Type of social networking ... inter-generational mixing
- Control of people before and after event
- Young adults with hypertension, diabetes, respiratory issues, compromised immune systems
- Elderly
- Legal liability

Proven Safeguards

- Wearing face masks – protection of others – limited protection to self
- Testing
- Contact tracing
- Quarantining
- Physical distancing >6
- Handwashing and sanitizers

Plan Should Include

- Mitigate the risk of airborne virus
- Flexibility to changes plans quickly based on pandemic activity
- Ability to contact all participants quickly and effectively in case of a positive case
- Wait until there is a declining and low level of community infection

Suggestions

- Screen participants – body temperature, questionnaire
- Mandate face mask use – if unable to wear face mask have virtual alternative
- No face-to-face activities allowed – before, during, after
- Everyone facing same direction
- Social distancing of more than 6'0" or 13'0" or 20'0"?
- Activities only in large rooms with high ceilings, proper ventilation, outdoors
- Log location of participants for contact tracing
- Establish a church contact with public health officials
- Establish what "low levels" and "declining levels" are for the Cedar Valley

**most of the information contained herein was found at ChristianityToday.com*

<https://www.christianitytoday.com/ct/2020/may-web-only/when-churches-reopen-phase-coronavirus-covid-19-guidelines.html>