



Crossroads Church of God

Reopening Plan

Sunday Morning Worship Gatherings

Updated August 20, 2020

In the first letter to the church in Thessalonica, the Apostle Paul wrote (as recorded in 1 Thessalonians 2:17, NLT), “Dear brothers and sisters, after we were separated from you for a little while (though our hearts never left you), we tried very hard to come back because of our intense longing to see you again.” Although it seems the separation of Paul from the church in that place and at that time was different than the reasons we are separated today, I feel somewhat of a connection to Paul’s sentiment.

We have been separated for a much longer time than originally expected. However, after much prayer, conversation, counsel, reading guidelines from several different sources, Pastor Mike and the Leadership Team has determined that it is time to implement a reopening of our church facility to members of the congregation.

This reopening will start out on a limited capacity basis to help minimize risk and potential exposure to the COVID-19 virus. Please understand, no matter what safety precautions we implement, and no matter how good everyone could be at following the precautions, there is risk involved if you and/or your family decide to attend a gathering at Crossroads Church of God. The virus spreads easily, even amid the most stringent of precautions. We want to be sure you understand this, and that you take this into account before you attend a gathering.

With all this in mind, the following guidelines were implemented at the church to help reduce exposure to the virus as we began to gather again on Sunday, May 31, 2020.

1. The Leadership Team will assess the situation on an ongoing basis and may modify these guidelines at any time.
2. The total number of people to gather at the church for a Sunday worship service at this time will be **increased to 45** people (this includes band, singers, pastor, & sound booth).
 - a. This number represents **about 30%** of our sanctuary’s comfortable capacity.
 - b. Once we see how this number works after a couple of gatherings, we may adjust it accordingly.
3. We will utilize a RSVP system through Signup Genius to help ensure correct capacity.
 - a. Those without availability to use Signup Genius may call Pastor Mike at the church to be added: (517) 546-0722.
 - b. This also means you may not want to attend every Sunday to allow others to attend that want to.
4. Please stay home if you or members of your household are (or have been within the last 14 days) sick, have a fever, or suspect that you have been exposed to the coronavirus.
5. If you or members of your household are in the high risk categories of having complications from the virus, it is of utmost importance that you seriously weigh the risks of attending any gathering including here at the church.
6. The nursery will not be open for use except for the need of changing a child’s diaper.

7. Worship begins at 10:45am each Sunday. Please limit early arrival to help prevent impromptu visiting. Those involved with the worship service (band, singing, pastor, sound booth) may arrive as needed for necessary preparations.
8. Weather permitting the exterior doors of the church will be propped open as you arrive and when you leave to help limit the touching of surfaces. Sanctuary doors will also be kept open.
 - a. Once service begins the exterior doors will be secured per our safety guidelines.
9. Wearing masks is recommended whenever inside and not able to maintain 6 feet or more of separation from one another (excluding your own household members).
10. Please limit congregating in the lobby area before and after service. You can gather outside, maintaining appropriate distancing.
11. When greeting one another, please refrain from shaking hands or hugging.
12. Hand sanitizer is available in the lobby and other areas of the church. Please use as often as needed.
 - a. We encourage everyone to bring your own hand sanitizer and wipes for surfaces.
13. The restrooms will be available for use. Please wash your hands with soap thoroughly. Disinfectant spray and/or wipes should be used on surfaces as you leave the restroom.
 - a. We have one women's restroom that has multiple stalls. We ask that this restroom be used one person at a time.
14. Bulletins will not be provided at this time.
15. Certain rows of pews will be closed off with signs. Please do not sit in these pews to allow for greater distancing between families/individuals.
 - a. Families are asked to sit in the same pew as much as possible.
 - b. If you must sit in a pew with someone other than in your household, please allow for as much distance between you as possible.
16. Coffee and refreshments will not be provided. Please feel free to bring your own beverages if you would like.
17. Offering plates will not be passed. Please use the online giving option, or you may place your offering in the lock box located in the lobby area.
18. When communion is offered, we will use the prefilled cups/wafers.
19. Sunday School and Jr. Church ministries are cancelled until further notice.
20. Anyone willfully disregarding these guidelines will be asked to leave.

Live streaming our services will continue. Virtual meetings will also continue as they have been over the past couple of months. Additional virtual meetings may be added as needed.

The Leadership Team will continue to monitor national and state news and will update these guidelines as needed. Whenever there is a change, it will be communicated to the congregation via email and/or regular mail. Information will be available on our church website as well.

Thank you for your patience and understanding as we navigate this time in history.

Pastor Mike Harris