



Our Plan For Gathering Together As A Church Family

July 13, 2020

Thank you for being a part of the Springfield Community Church family, we are excited to now have the opportunity to join together for in-person services. Doing so requires diligence by every one of us to minimize the risk of contagious spread of COVID-19.

Our goal is to create a safe, celebratory atmosphere for all so that we may join together in worshipping God and connecting people to Jesus Christ and to each other.

We feel it is time for Springfield Community Church to open up for in-person gatherings again. Updated CDC guidelines concerning the spread of COVID-19 and low infection rates in our community and region lead us to believe that we can invite people to meet in-person again with relatively low risk.

We are in this together. We are going to ask each of you to lay aside some of your personal preferences for the safety and health of our entire church family. We need to keep this document fluid, meaning as we gather new information daily, we will adapt to make sure we keep everyone as safe as possible.

This means that we need “grace” for one another. To respect where each individual is at, knowing that ultimately it is between them and God; some might wear masks, some might not. Some might hug, while some might not. This all needs to be understood with “grace”. The enemy wants to divide us over these issues. This No Ordinary Family needs to rise up and be the Church. This family is filled with individuals that are unique, but ALL united by our love for our Lord and Savior. We need to continue to lean into Holy Spirit and ask for discernment continually, to help us make wise decisions.

Will you commit to:

1. Review this document thoroughly
2. Find ways to improve these ideas weekly
3. Help us keep our facility clean
4. Stay at home when you are ill.
5. Practice “safe” social interaction”
6. Wash hands or disinfect thoroughly and frequently
7. Be respectful of others with their choices for distancing, greeting, and use of face masks

Building Preparation

The building will be cleaned prior to scheduled worship services and other uses, such as prayer meetings, weddings or funerals. Cleaning will include: chairs, tables and surfaces disinfected, bathrooms cleaned and disinfected, parenting room cleaned and disinfected, audio/video controls and equipment disinfected, microphones, stands and musical equipment disinfected. When multiple services are provided during a single day, cleaning will be repeated between each service.

Worship Services

With the current situation in rural Wisconsin looking positive on statistics and expectations we feel that we can resume within-person gatherings with these modifications for safety.

- 1. Face Masks:** At the current level of COVID-19 infection rates in our community and region the use of face masks is discretionary. The use of face masks is a personal preference that can cause division in the church. We ask that ALL be respectful of individual preferences and decisions for their use. Disposable face masks will be available for those entering who do not have a mask but would like one. The key here is to use discernment and grace.
- 2. Safer Distancing:** We will be offering 2 Sunday morning worship services, 9:00 AM and 10:45 AM. Total attendance in the main worship space will be limited to 100 in each service. Chairs will be spaced to allow maximum distance between individuals. Families are encouraged to group chairs together for family units. Additional seating will be available in a separate room with audio/video connection for those individuals that prefer additional distancing. Additional audio speakers will be placed outside of the building on the East lawn providing audio of the services for those individuals who prefer to participate outside of the building.
- 3. Additional precautions:** We will do the following to help our church family and guests abide by safety standards for public gatherings.
 - A.** Offering baskets will not be passed. Our offering box is located at the rear of the worship room for in-person giving and on-line giving is available through the SCCLomira.Org website and Text to give.
 - B.** Hand sanitizer will be available within the building.
 - C.** Fellowship service of coffee and treats will not be provided initially.
 - D.** Communion, when celebrated, will not be passed in trays, but instead will be made available in individually wrapped servings for attendees to pick up as they enter the service.

E. Greeters will welcome attendees without handshakes or hugs.

F. Attendees will be encouraged to enter the building through the main entrance (West doors) and exit through the South doors.

4. **On-Line Services:** We will continue to rigorously pursue to improve the quality of experience and engagement of our on-line content.

Community Groups

Springfield Community Church Community Groups will meet this summer at the church office on Sunday mornings at 10:45 AM and Sunday evenings at 6:00 PM. The following guidelines will be added for groups meeting during these times.

1. Those exhibiting any symptoms of fever or illness should not attend.
2. The use of face masks is a personal preference that can cause division in the church. We ask that ALL be respectful of individual preferences and decisions for their use. Disposable face masks will be available for those entering who do not have a mask but would like one. The key here is to use discernment and grace.
3. Each group is responsible for disinfecting tables and chairs and other surfaces before each meeting.

Nursery Services

At this time, we are not able to provide care for infants and toddlers.

Kids Spring (Children's Church)

Programing for children K – 5th grade will be suspended for the summer months to be resumed with the start of the school year.

Junior High and High School Groups

Summer activities for Junior High and High School students is currently under review with expectations of a kick off in late July.

Our response to changes in the contagious spread of COVID-19.

- 1. An unconfirmed case with symptoms only should lead to informing the church staff and Elder Board and assessing the exposure risk (where was this person and how much contact did they have with others). Likely no congregational communication or changes until diagnosis.**
- 2. Unconfirmed MULTIPLE cases associated with a church gathering would lead to informing the church staff and Elder Board and likely moving services online only for a 2-week period of time (or more). Decide about communication to people who were in proximity and at risk as best you can (contact tracing).**
- 3. A confirmed CoVid individual case should lead to the church staff and Elder Board being informed and the entire congregation being informed. Possibly moving services online only for a specified time depending upon exposure assessment.**
- 4. Confirmed multiple CoVid cases should lead to the church staff and Elder Board being informed and the entire congregation being informed while moving the services and ALL ministries to only online or virtual ministry for a specified time.**