

# **Corporate Worship Sequim Church Re-Opening**

The Sequim Church will open for corporate worship on Sabbath, June 6. The following are guidelines approved by the Church Board on June 1 for promoting a safe worship experience.

## **Worship**

State guidelines allow for no more than 50 people in a building at a time. Therefore, we will have TWO worship services, one beginning at 9:30 am and one at 10:50 am. Once the maximum number is reached, we will not be able to admit additional attendees.

## **Pre-Registration**

Worship attendance will be by pre-registration, beginning Thursday morning. Call or email Jay at the church to reserve space at the service you prefer. Reservations will be on a first-come, first-served basis. A maximum of 45 reservations will be available for each service, which allows for some guests who may arrive unannounced. If a third service is needed, it will be at 12:15 pm.

## **Sabbath School**

The Fellowship Hall is considered to be a separate building, so five adult Sabbath School classes will meet there at the same time as Divine Worship in the Sanctuary.

- The Sanctuary Class (James Whitney) will meet at 9:30 am in the Fellowship Hall
- The Fireside Class (Michael Smith) will meet in at 9:30 am in Sunroom South
- The Choir Room Class (Bruce Winters) will meet at 11:00 in the Fellowship Hall
- The Sunroom North Class (Dave Needham) will meet at 11:00 in Sunroom South
- The Spanish Class (Virginia Smith) will meet at 11:00 in the Youth Room
- On June 6 the Pastor's Class in Genesis will meet by Zoom at 2:00 pm, since we have out-of-town members
- NO CHILDREN'S SABBATH SCHOOLS will meet until June 20. Since it will be a bit more challenging to observe distancing protocols, the consensus of the teachers and the Board is to allow the restart to run successfully for a couple weeks before we add the children's program back.

Chairs will be set out for you at appropriate spacing. Leaders, feel free to meet with your class outdoors if the weather is nice.

## **Who should attend?**

All members as well as our young people are welcome to attend both Worship and adult Sabbath School classes. However, if you believe you may be susceptible to the virus or feel you want to be a bit more cautious before venturing back into a public gathering, you can make the decision to opt out until a later date. Podcast of the morning worship service will be posted on the church website. Also, if you are not feeling well, or you have been running a fever or exhibit symptoms of illness, we ask you to remain at home.

## **What Virus-mitigating Protocols Will Be in Place?**

- 6-foot Social Distancing. In Sabbath Schools, chairs will be placed 6 feet apart. In Worship, alternate pews will be closed, and we ask that family groups sit in open pews not closer than 6 feet to other family groups. Worship dismissal will be by pew, at the direction of a deacon, in order to minimize crowding at the exit doors. We ask that you refrain from handshakes, hugs, and fist-bumps. Our greeters will not shake your hand. While in the hallways and restrooms, we ask that you allow as much space as practical between yourself and others.
- Traffic Flow: Please use the north lobby doors (parking lot side) and south lobby doors (frontlawn side) to enter the church building. Use the breezeway doors at the end of the hall to exit the building. Use the breezeway steel doors to enter the Fellowship Hall, and the glass door near the fireplace to exit the Fellowship Hall. By doing this we can reduce crowding at the doors.
- Face Coverings are recommended by the state government (although their efficacy to mitigate the spread of the virus is not settled), and for that reason we pass that recommendation on to you. However, we will not provide them nor require you to wear one. Please understand there are likely to be people who will NOT be wearing face coverings. We believe they would be most beneficial if worn as you pass through the hallways or while in the restroom, when close proximity to other people is most likely. All three of these guidelines -- social distancing, traffic flow, and face coverings -- are recommendations we suggest but which we will not enforce.
- Bulletins will not be handed out but will be available for you to pick up. There will be no hymnals, bibles, nor tithe envelopes in the pews. Tithe Envelopes will be available for you to pick up with your bulletin.
- Your Offerings and Tithes can be placed in the wooden chest in the lobby. No offering plates will be passed during worship. Please remember to be faithful in giving, as you have been, and please remember to place your gift in the chest before you leave the building.
- We plan to leave doors open to maximize fresh-air ventilation as well as eliminate the need to touch door handles. We will have the heat on, but consider bringing a coat if you tend to be chilly.
- Hand Sanitizer will be available for your use at each entry door as well as in the restrooms. Gloves and sanitizing wipes will be available for your use in the restrooms as well. Deacons will disinfect counters, door-handles, the wood on the top of the pews, microphones, faucets, and flush handles in restrooms between services.
- We will NOT have fellowship meals until further notice. If we have refreshments at all, they will be pre-packaged snacks or drinks purchased from stores and available only in the parking lot.

## **Questions?**

Please call the church office or one of the pastors for clarification, or to make a suggestion.