

COVENANT PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH COVID-19 PANDEMIC GUIDELINES

These are the guidelines that the Session and the Pastor have approved and put in place to ensure the health and welfare of the members. I have also organized a Covid-19 Response Team where are leaders in certain areas who will help implement these guidelines and safeguards to have a meaningful worship service. We will have these guidelines in place until the situation improves. **These guidelines and safeguards are setup based on information from State (the Governor) and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.**

Reopening Time line:

The Session and Pastor will not open up the church until we feel it is safe for the congregation. The tentative date to reopen is July 5, 2020 so, we will use the rest of June to prepare to reopen the church.

Covid-19 Response Team:

Pastor	Rev. Herbert Hill
Custodians	Melvin Haynie, Janice Haynie
Head Usher	Yolanda Young
Clerk of Session	Lisa Haynie
Asst. Clerk of Session	Antia Blakeney
Safety and Security	Michael Grier
Minister of Music	Milton Thompson
Corporation	Taranda Miller
Food Bank	Scott Haynie

I. General Safeguard Requirements of all Members:

1. Anyone attend a service will be required to wear a mask during the service.
2. Everyone will have their temperature taken before they enter the church to see if they are well.
3. Social distancing will be observed 6 feet between each person.
4. Hand sanitizer, masks, and gloves will be provided if needed.
5. There will be tissue and hand sanitizer placed throughout the church.

II. Safeguards for the Church Building:

Cleaning and Sanitizing:

1. The church will be cleaned and sanitized before it reopens.
2. The sanctuary will be sanitized and cleaned before each service and any other areas used during that week.

Front Door:

1. The walkway up to the front door will be marked to observe social distancing of 6 feet.
2. Each person will have their temperature taken before they enter the church.
 - A. If your temperature is 100.4 and above you will be asked to go home. **This is the federal standard according to the CDC.**
 - B. If your temp is below 100.4 the usher will let you in and you will be seated.
3. When we reach 32 people in the sanctuary no more people will be allowed in and they will have to go to the fellowship hall the overflow area.
4. Each person will need to fill out an attendance form before entering the church acknowledging that they will follow the church guidelines during covid-19 and that they acknowledge the risk of attending service

Seating:

1. Three people per pew, please sit where you see the tape mark.
2. Every other pew will be closed.
3. Maximum capacity in sanctuary will be 32 and the maximum capacity in the fellowship hall will be 25.
4. Maximum people allowed in the church will be 59 (congregation 57 Pastor and Musician 2=59 total people)

Pulpit:

The pulpit will be closed to everyone except the Pastor and the Musician. We will not have a percussionist due to social distancing.

Classrooms:

No more than 4 people per classroom.

Bathrooms:

1. One person at a time can go to the bathroom
2. If need to you can go downstairs to the bathroom if the one upstairs is occupied.
3. We will have a usher monitor those who go to the bathroom.

Fellowship Hall (overflow):

1. 25 chairs will be setup 6 feet apart.
2. View the service through Facebook.
3. A area will be setup to receive offering in the fellowship hall.
4. When we reach 25 people no more people will be allowed.

III. Participants in the Service:

Ushers:

1. Ushers will wear a mask and gloves.
2. The gloves will be collected and washed each week.
3. Three usher positions (1) front door (2) sanctuary and (3) door to the bathroom.

A. Front Door – Responsibilities:

1. Take temperature of people entering
2. Have each person fill out an attendance form.
3. Count people entering until you reach 32.
4. Take overflow to fellowship hall.
5. Make sure each person who enters is wearing a mask or provide them with a mask.

B. Sanctuary – Responsibilities:

1. Pass offering envelopes and bulletins.
2. During offering allow one row at a time bring their offering down front.
3. Monitor congregation

C. Door to Bathroom- Responsibilities:

1. monitor people going to the bathroom and let them go one at a time.
 2. Assist with offering.
4. Usher need to be in place by 10:30 AM.
 5. Ushers will dismiss the congregation row by row after the benediction.

Church Security:

1. Monitor church grounds.
2. Monitor congregation to see if safeguards are being observed or if someone looks like they are getting sick.

Pastor:

The Pastor will wear a mask and gloves during this part of the worship service.

1. Communion
2. Baptism
3. Altar call
4. At Benediction

Clerk of Session:

The Clerk of Session will get the attendance form from the ushers and keep them on file by month and date. To have information for tracing if need.

IV. Finance:

Money counters will wear gloves when they are counting money.

V. Changes to Worship Service:

General Guidelines

1. The first pew on both sides will be closed so social distancing can be observed.
2. The morning worship service will be live streamed
3. The congregation will not be recorded only those who come down front.

Music

1. Congregational singing will be done with mask on.
2. Solos may come down front or stand where they are
3. If a duet or trio stay where you are and sing while observing social distancing
4. Music for the service will be solos and the possibility of duets or trios.
5. The Minister of Music will determine the music for the service.

Passing of the Peace

There will be no passing of the peace in the service just greet those near you without leaving your seat.

Children's Message

The Children Church Leader or Pastor will come down front and do the message. The children will remain in their seats.

Offering

The table with the plates will be in the front of the church
The usher(s) will let you come down from one row at a time

Altar Call

1. Please stand for prayer if you wish
2. Those who want special prayer will let the pastor know when he asks for requests for special prayer. Each person who has a prayer request will come down one at a time.

Benediction

After the benediction the Ushers will dismiss you one row at a time.

VI. Changes to Special Services:

Communion

1. Serve prepackaged communion packets.
2. Pastor will wear gloves and mask.
3. Members will get pick up their communion as they enter.

Baptism

1. The Pastor, the person being baptize will come down front, if it is a child or baby the parent(s) will come down front.
2. Other family members will stand at their seat.
3. The pastor will perform the service while the parent holds their child.
4. The pastor will perform this service with a mask and gloves on.

VII. Other Services:

Wedding, funerals, memorials, or any service of this type will follow the state and local guidelines of capacity and social distancing. The capacity is 50 or less and will be adjusted depending on current orders and guidelines.

VIII. Other Areas:

Meetings:

Meetings will be held in the sanctuary or fellowship hall so we can practice social distancing.

Bible Study:

Bible Study will be held in the fellowship hall so we can practice social distancing.

Sunday School:

One class will be held in the sanctuary and the other class in fellowship hall so we can practice social distancing. Sunday School will have to end by 10:45 to prepare for the morning service.

Approved by the Session: June 1, 2020

Covenant Presbyterian Church
Covid-19 Pandemic Foodbank Guidelines

Food Bank:

1. The food bank will do drive thru service only.
2. Clients will stay in the car.
3. The food will be put in the trunk.
4. Just write down the number in the family and their name.
5. No one but workers will be allowed in the foodbank.
6. All foodbank workers are required to wear a mask and gloves.

The food bank will follow these guidelines until covid-19 threat is lower.

Approved by the Session: June 1, 2020

Church Basic Guidelines:

Read before service as a reminder.

1. Please sit where you see a tape mark.
2. No passing of the peace.
3. Please keep your mask on during the whole service.
4. If you start to feel sick please alert the ushers.
5. Please one person goes to the bathroom at a time.
6. Children and babies need to stay with family.
7. The congregation will be dismissed one row at a time after the benediction.

COVENANT PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH COVID-19 REOPENING STAGES

Stage1: Preparation for New Normal

- Develop and Approve safeguards and guidelines.
- Decide on a date to reopen the church
- Preparing and Setting up safeguards and guidelines to reopen the church.
- Small groups like weddings and funerals 50 or less people.
- Social distancing of 6 feet
- People wear masks and gloves
- 20% capacity 32 people in sanctuary and 32 people in fellowship hall
- Establish Covid-19 Response Team

Stage2: Community Transmission Lower

- Small groups like weddings and funerals 50 or less people.
- Social distancing of 4 feet
- People wear masks and gloves
- 25% capacity 44 people in sanctuary and 44 people in fellowship hall
- Relax any safeguards or guidelines if possible

Stage3: Vaccine Developed

- Remove and relax safeguards as needed
- Small groups like weddings and funerals 50 or more people.
- Social distancing relaxed or removed
- Masks and gloves not required
- 50% capacity or higher 80 people in sanctuary and 60 people in fellowship hall
- Begin to understand and develop the new normal for the church

