

## CCCH's Inside, In-Person Gathering Plan (Updated September 10th)

We are excited to go back to two Sunday morning services at 9am and 10:45am with a limit of 110 people in the Worship Center starting September 20th! We will also be offering 5th - 8th grade programming during the 10:45am service only. There will be a maximum of 25 students and 5 leaders in the Student Center. These maximum numbers come from the recommendation of a safe option of worshipping inside from the Illinois Department of Public Health (IDPH). We know this in-person, inside worship experience will be different than it was in the past. However, we are excited to gather in this manner, believing that the many guidelines we are following to prevent the spread of COVID-19 are appropriate and sufficient. We are thankful in advance for your willingness to set aside some personal preferences and follow these guidelines in order to attend these worship services at CCCH!

**You and your family will be able to attend service every Sunday by filling out our registration form that can be found online on our main page or via our Monday morning email. This will be on a first come, first serve basis.** We will be evaluating the amount of people registering every Sunday to determine if we can continue to allow people to register every Sunday.

**As you read through the details and guidelines below, please know that new medical information or government guidelines could alter our plans and guidelines. So, these are subject to change over the course of days, weeks and months ahead. Thank you for being patient, gracious and understanding as we navigate this unprecedented time in our world's history!**

**Here is a detailed list of guidelines that we are asking those who attend to follow:**

- 1) Doors will be propped open for people to enter. Greeters will be there with gloves and masks on in case they need to safely open doors.
- 2) Ushers will take people directly to their reserved seat once they get to the main entrance into the worship center.
- 3) Any type of “fellowship” (talking with others) cannot take place indoors, but can freely take place outside in the CCCH Parking Lot at a socially safe distance.
- 4) People will be able to use the bathrooms if needed. We will limit the amount of people in the bathroom at a time to ensure that safe, physical distancing is being followed. Signs will be posted to indicate maximum capacity. Water fountains will not be in use, but water bottles will be available to grab outside of the bathrooms.
- 5) For greeting time, we will wave, air hug/high five, or get creative with greeting each other/ However we will stay in our designated seating area for this time.
- 6) Until further notice, corporate Worship will not take place in the traditional sense. Because the main way of transmitting the COVID-19 virus is through mouth droplets, our worship team will sing, but the congregation will refrain from singing. We will continue to evaluate this as we know corporate singing is an important part of our worship service experience.
- 7) We will not be passing offering baskets. There will be two boxes located in back of the Worship Center to drop off offering. We are still encouraging offerings to be mailed to the office or done primary online through our website or app.
- 8) There will be nothing in the “seatbacks” of the chairs except for pre-packaged communion. People will be instructed to take communion during the service.
- 9) You are free to use your own bible or phone or purse at your own discretion.
- 10) End of Service Prayer with Pastoral Care Deacons will be available outside in the courtyard area, not in the Worship Center.
- 11) Ushers will dismiss people from the back of the Worship Center to the front. As you enter and exit the building, we will have hand sanitizer available for everyone to use.
- 12) We will be requiring people to wear masks for the entirety of the service and maintain social distancing from people who are not in their family (6 feet).

**Below are some common questions you may have and other churches have worked through as they have gathered inside and in-person for services:**

1) What happens if someone attends a worship service and within 14 days they find out they have tested positive for COVID-19?

According to the CDC and IDPH Guidelines for churches, here are the following steps we would take. Here is the link to these guidelines: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/community/faith-based.html>

**Number 1-** With reserved seating for every service, we are able to identify the people who were sitting within 10 feet of the person who tested positive. We would contact these people immediately and let them know that someone who they were still socially distanced from, but were in the vicinity, tested positive. We would let them know when they received the positive test results.

**Number 2-** We would ask them to monitor their symptoms for 14 days, starting from when they attended the worship service. If they have no symptoms during that time, they are still free to attend service or other church functions. If they have symptoms we would encourage them to get tested. If they test negative, we would encourage them to not return to an in-person gatherings until symptoms have gone away for 72 hours. If they tested positive, they need to self-quarantine for 14 days according to the CDC.

2) Will there be kids programming for Sunday mornings?

We will not be having any kids programming until further notice. This will give the leadership at CCCH time to evaluate these first services, check in with local health professionals and stay consistent with where local schools are at in their re-opening process. Kids are more than welcome to attend the inside, in-person services as long as they are able to follow the guidelines listed above. Also, they are allowed to watch their age-specific YouTube videos for Bible Teaching during the service. Parents are encouraged to bring headphones and devices for their kids for this purpose!

3) Is there an age range as to who can and cannot attend a service?

There are no age restrictions to attending the service. If you are elderly, you can decide if you want to come; if you have kids, you can decide if you and the whole family want to come. We ask all people to abide by the CDC guidelines in regards to only coming into public settings when you are feeling healthy and following all guidelines of social distancing and wearing a mask inside the building.

4) Why do people on stage not have to wear a mask while they are speaking or singing but those sitting in the worship center do?

After consulting with our local medical professionals, the small amount of people who are on stage throughout the service will not need to wear masks while they are on stage because of the greater distance they are from everyone else. However, when they are not on stage, they will be wearing masks like everyone else.