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REGATHERING

STRATEGY FOR COMING OUT OF COVID-19



MASON TEMPLE
CHURCH OF GOD IN CHRIST

MASONTemple.COM



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Grace and peace,

We find ourselves making preparation to embark into a new season. As with every season, Satan has set a variety of temptations designed to kill, steal, and destroy. However, we remain confident because we are protected by the promises of God. I challenge you, as saints of God, to remain faithful and know that regardless of what 2021 brings, we already have the victory. Let us not be weary in well doing for in due season, we shall reap if we faint not.

James Lee

James L. Lee (Pastor)



SECTION ONE

Senior Citizens, Individuals with Underlying Health Conditions &
Primary Caregivers for People with Underlying Conditions



Section One

Regarding Senior Citizens/ Those with Underlying Health Conditions/ Primary Caregivers for People with Underlying Conditions

Because of the dangers related to COVID-19, we are suggesting all members age 65 and older and all members with underlying health conditions such as breathing conditions, cancer treatments, suppressed immune systems, etc, to please stay home and continue worshipping via livestream during Phase I of our return. (Phasing will be explained in Section Four). It may be necessary for those folks to stay away from “crowds” even after Phase 1.

Who Is at Risk?

Based on what we know now, those at high-risk for severe illness from COVID-19 are:

- People 65 years and older
- People of all ages with underlying medical conditions, particularly if not well controlled, including:
 - People with chronic lung disease or moderate to severe asthma
 - People who have serious heart conditions
 - People who are immunocompromised. Many conditions can cause a person to be immunocompromised, including
 - cancer treatment
 - smoking
 - bone marrow or organ transplantation
 - immune deficiencies
 - poorly controlled HIV or AIDS and
 - prolonged use of corticosteroids and other immune weakening medications.



Section One

Regarding Senior Citizens/ Those with Underlying Health Conditions/ Primary Caregivers for People with Underlying Conditions

- People with severe obesity (body mass index [BMI] of 40 or higher)
- People with diabetes
- People with chronic kidney disease undergoing dialysis
- People with liver disease

If we become aware that someone who has been in a service becomes ill, we will follow these procedures:

- We will ask the person to stay home and seek medical care if needed. Persons should stay at home for at least seven days after symptoms started AND three days after symptoms are improved and fever resolves without the use of fever-reducing medications.
- We will contact local health officials.
- If public health officials determine we need to, we will assist with determining who needs to be contacted for contact tracing.
- Any areas we determine the confirmed COVID-19 person visited will be sanitized.

Source: Centers for Disease Control (CDC) website, November 2020

https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/faq.html?CDC_AA_refVal=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.cdc.gov%2Fcoronavirus%2F2019-ncov%2Fneed-extra-precautions%2Fpeople-with-seasonal-allergies-faqs.html#People-with-Seasonal-Allergies

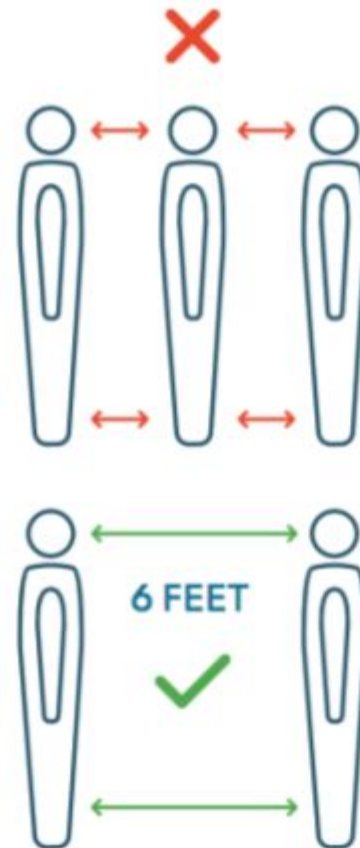
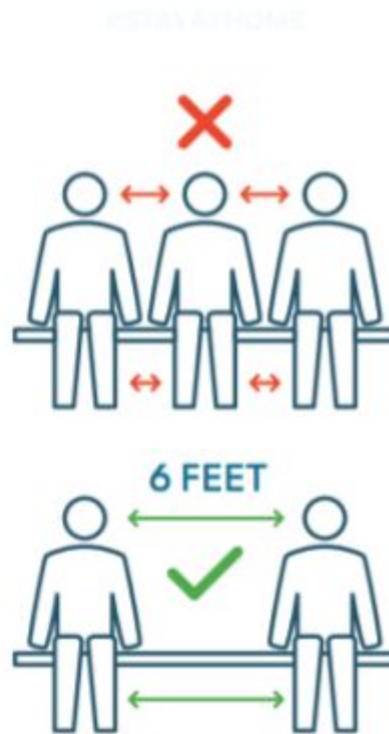
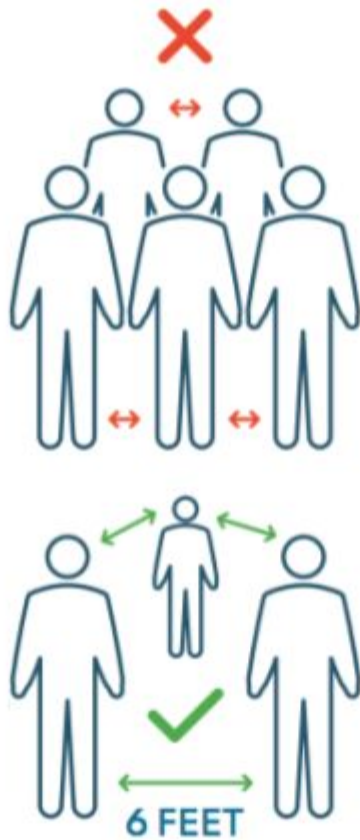


SECTION TWO

SOCIAL DISTANCING



6 FEET SOCIAL DISTANCING





As recommended by the CDC and our Welcome Back Team, instructional signs will be strategically posted around our church campus, and shall be observed by members and guests on return to campus. No one should attend services who are known to have had any contact with a known COVID-19 confirmed case. Members will be required to wear a mask until further notice and to maintain six feet of distance when speaking to one another. (Thousands of masks have been purchased by Mason Temple Church of God In Christ and are available for those who have forgotten to bring one.) **No one will be permitted into the building without a mask.** Every adult and child age 5 and older will need a mask.

To simplify this process, here are the DO's and DON'Ts:

Section Two

SOCIAL DISTANCING

DO

- Wear a mask (ages 5 and up)
- Come ready and willing to have your temperature taken by our Nursing Unit at the entry of the building before every service.
- Wash your hands before and after services
- Stay six feet from others
- Cover your coughs or sneezes
- Visit hand sanitizer stations frequently
- Use the front and back doors for entry and exit. (including keyholders)

DON'T

- Shake hands
- Hug others
- Get frustrated or impatient with volunteers trying to ensure the safety of all attendees
- Come to church if you are sick
- Touch your face, nose, and mouth without immediately sanitizing your hands
- Leave trash in the Main Auditorium
- Use any of the side doors for entry or exit. (including keyholders)



Volunteers

It will take the cooperative effort of our "Welcome Back Team" and other volunteers to make this re-entry possible. Our volunteers will be observing the following distancing policies:

- **Parking**

- All Parking lot attendants will be easily identified and wear masks.
- In the parking lot, we will use every other parking space in order to maintain social distancing while entering and exiting the vehicles.
- Attendees should have their mask on before exiting the car. Please bring a mask but If you forget one, volunteers will get one to you. **All adults and children ages 5 and older will need masks.**

- **Nurses Unit (NU)**

- The Nurses Unit is made up of qualified individuals that currently work or have previously worked in the medical field.
- The Nurses Unit will be required to wear gloves and masks.
- A member of the NU will check and record the temperature of "EVERYONE" **before** entering the building or operating in their volunteer positions.
- If anyone has even a low grade temperature... they will not be allowed to enter the building. This is for the safety of all and we ask that you please comply **without incident.**

Section Two

SOCIAL DISTANCING



Section Two

SOCIAL DISTANCING

- The nurses unit will place a sticker on your clothing to signify that you have been registered and checked for fever.
 - The nurses unit will also ensure the Covid-19 questionnaire and waiver has been signed and submitted prior to entering the building.
 - They will operate in a Godly and professional manner to ensure a pleasant and rewarding worship experience for all.
- **Greeters and Hospitality Teams**
 - Greeters will be required to wear face masks and gloves. They will adhere to social distancing of six feet and will abstain from hand shaking. Greeters will be stationed outside the sanctuary in the main lobby and at the rear entrance. They will have assigned positions, be uniformed and able to be clearly identified.
 - Greeters will digitally check in attendees in order to comply with CDC guidelines and direct them to the ushers to be seated in the sanctuary.
 - Greeters will be willing to assist attendees but in order to keep the flow of traffic and limit wait times... greeters may have to get back to you later or ask you to step aside and allow others to pass.
 - There will be no food or drink refreshments offered by the Greeters.
 - We will have large signage posted outside all entrances to the main auditorium explicitly detailing requirements for service attenders.
 - Areas of our church will be roped off to discourage social congregating before or after the services.



Section Two

SOCIAL DISTANCING

- **Ushers**

- Ushers will be required to wear masks.
- Ushers will wear gloves while passing out or collecting materials.
- Attenders and ushers will maintain social distancing of six feet at all times from the time we drive onto the property and exit our cars until the time we get back into our cars after the service.
- Auditorium doors will be propped open to avoid the touching of door handles. If you prefer to not touch a door handle, please wait for hospitality to assist you.
- Hallways and aisles will be clearly marked for one-way foot traffic. Please follow all signage inside the building.
- Doors will be designated as “entrance-only” or “exit-only.” Please observe all signage.
- Ushers will seat attenders before the services. Families will sit together. There will be proper spacing between families.
- We will sit every other row, and stagger in the rows in an alternate seating pattern to ensure social distancing. Distancing will be kept in all directions—front, back, left, and right.
- At the end of the services, ushers will dismiss attendees in a controlled orderly manner maintaining social distancing. Ushers may need to direct people to a specific exit door. There will be no gatherings at doorways.



Section Two

SOCIAL DISTANCING

- Offering plates will not be passed during the services. We will continue to promote online giving and there will also be someone on the way in and out to receive your offerings, tithes and contributions.
- Attendees are encouraged to promptly return to their vehicles and refrain from fellowshiping at the end of the service. (This will be tough... but it is necessary and will be enforced)
- The Sanctuary will be cleared and cleaned at the end of each service and will remain closed until fifteen minutes prior to the beginning of the next service.
- No food or beverage will be shared on campus.
- **Invitation/Altar Call**
 - At the end of the message, attendees will be encouraged to make decisions in their seat.
- **The Lord's Table**
 - Whenever the Lord leads our Pastor to have communion... a sanitized & prepackaged individual container of juice and a wafer will be passed out as you enter the sanctuary and take your seat.



SECTION THREE

The Sanitization of Our Facilities



Section Three

THE SANITIZATION OF OUR FACILITY

Mason Temple Church of God In Christ has always attempted to maintain high quality standards of cleaning our facilities. However, many adjustments have been made in order to prevent illness from spreading on our church campus. We have purchased ***Electrostatic Backpack Sprayers*** that will be used to sanitize the auditorium after each service. We want you to be aware of our cleaning procedures going forward.

Facility Janitorial/Maintenance

- We have a tremendous team who cleans and sanitizes our facilities daily!
- Every worker, staff member, and/or volunteer performing cleaning tasks will be required to wear a mask and gloves while working at all times. New gloves will be put on after completing a restroom or area of the building.
- Only cleaning products provided by the ministry will be used. Approved cleaning products use these chemicals: Isopropyl Alcohol, Nonionic Surfactant, Quaternary Ammonium Chloride.
- Every worker, staff member, and/or volunteer will adhere to the six-foot social distancing rule while working.

Entry Doors/Lobbies/Back Hallway

- Handles to all entry/exit doors are being sanitized before and after each service.
- Handles to all restroom and closet doors are being sanitized before and after each service, and once an hour during services.



Section Three

THE SANITIZATION OF OUR FACILITY

- Counters, tables, Guest Service counters, staircase rails, and all lobby furniture will be sanitized before and after each service.
- Drinking fountains will be turned off and unavailable until further notice.
- Sanitizer stations are cleaned, checked for functionality, and refilled before and after each service.
- Light switches are sanitized before and after every service.
- Facial tissue will be available in the lobbies and restrooms.

Restrooms

- Cleaning schedules are posted on the wall inside each restroom.
- Every worker, staff member, and/or volunteer performing cleaning tasks will be required to wear a mask and gloves while working at all times. New gloves will be put on after completing each restroom.
- Toilets, urinals, and sinks will be sanitized before and after every service and every thirty minutes during services.
- Counters and surfaces will be sanitized before and after every service and once an hour during services.

Sanctuary and Balcony

- Handles to all entry/exit doors are being sanitized before and after each service.
- Chairs and tables used by the ushers are being sanitized before and after each service.
- After each service, the arms of each chair will be sanitized.
- The balcony railing and glass will be sanitized after each service.



Section Three

THE SANITIZATION OF OUR FACILITY

- Immediately after each service, the entire auditorium will be sanitized by one of the four Professional Cordless Electrostatic Backpack Sprayers we have purchased. Each sprayer can cover up to 23,000-square-feet on a single tank of fluid. It provides an electrical charge to the cleaning solution of hypochlorous acid, which allows for effective and even coverage.
- After each service, we will remove all trash and left over personal items from the auditorium. Personal items will be taken to the lost and found.
- We are increasing ventilation as much as possible in the buildings. We use the highest quality air filters that are inspected regularly and replaced.

Nurseries and Children's Classrooms

- (TO BE DETERMINED)



SECTION FOUR

SCHEDULE OF SERVICES



Section Four

Schedule of Services

We anticipate returning to our normal service schedule in incremental steps as guidance is received. Please familiarize yourself with these four phases. Announcements will be given using these terms, Phases 1–4.

In the event of resurgence of COVID-19, or another pandemic, we will use similar philosophy going forward. We will communicate as clearly and consistently as possible. Finally, it's probable that we will need to have multiple Sunday morning services for the first weeks back.



PHASE

1

Sunday Morning Schedule (8am & 11am)

It is probable that we will have to conduct multiple Sunday morning services in order to accommodate our membership while meeting the CDC guidelines to reduce the seating in the auditorium to less than 20% of capacity.

- Services are for all and families will be seated together.
- Each Individual/family will be separated by several seats.
- Ushers will seat individuals/families utilizing an alternate seating pattern to ensure compliance with CDC social distancing guidelines.

Sunday School

- Sunday School will continue to be virtual in Phase 1.
- Sunday School will be pre recorded and able to be viewed on all of our media platforms.



PHASE

1

Family Night Bible Study & Youth Breakouts

- Family Night Bible Study and Youth Breakouts will continue to operate virtually.
- Our adult bible study will be streamed on Wednesday evenings at 7.
- Our elementary school students will continue to have their virtual class on Tuesday evenings at 7.
- Middle and High School Students will continue their virtual class on Thursday evenings at 7.

Auxiliaries

- Auxiliaries will operate in virtual settings.
- Sessions will be made available on specified media formats.



PHASE **2**

Sunday Morning Schedule (8am & 11am)

It is probable that we will have to conduct multiple Sunday morning services in order to accommodate our membership while meeting the CDC guidelines to reduce the seating in the auditorium to less than 20% of capacity.

- Services are for all and families will be seated together.
- Each Individual/family will be separated by several seats.
- Ushers will seat individuals/families utilizing an alternate seating pattern to ensure compliance with CDC social distancing guidelines.
- The Ministry of Music will be conducted by a small and varying ensemble.

Sunday School

Sunday School will continue to be virtual in Phase 2. Sunday School will be pre recorded and able to be viewed on all of our media platforms.



PHASE **2**

Family Night Bible Study & Youth Breakouts

- The adult bible study will offer the option of individuals attending Wednesday evenings at 7.
 - Services are for all and families will be seated together.
 - Each Individual/family will be separated by several seats.
 - Ushers will seat individuals/families utilizing an alternate seating pattern to ensure compliance with CDC social distancing guidelines.
- Our Elementary School Students will continue to have their virtual class on Tuesday evenings at 7
- Middle and High School Students will continue their virtual class on Thursday evenings at 7.

Auxiliaries

- Auxiliaries will continue to operate in virtual settings.
- Sessions will be made available on specified media formats.



PHASE

3

Sunday Morning Schedule (8am & 11am)

It is probable that we will have to conduct multiple Sunday morning services in order to accommodate our membership while meeting the CDC guidelines to reduce the seating in the auditorium to less than 20% of capacity.

- Services are for all and families will be seated together.
- Each Individual/family will be separated by several seats.
- Ushers will seat individuals/families utilizing an alternate seating pattern to ensure compliance with CDC social distancing guidelines.
- The Ministry of Music will be conducted by a small and varying ensemble.

Sunday School

- Sunday School will continue to be available virtually. The option of in person Sunday School will also be available for a limited number of attendees that will be determined by a signup sheet in advance.
- Sunday School will continue to be available for viewing on all of our media platforms.



PHASE

3

Family Night Bible Study & Youth Breakouts

- The adult Bible study will continue to offer the option of individuals attending in person on Wednesday evenings at 7.
 - Services are for all and families will be seated together.
 - Each Individual/family will be separated by several seats.
 - Ushers will seat individuals/families utilizing an alternate seating pattern to ensure compliance with CDC social distancing guidelines.
- Our Elementary School Students will continue to have their virtual class on Tuesday evenings at 7
- Middle and High School Students will offer a limited in person bible study on Thursday evenings at 7.

Auxiliaries

- Auxiliaries will continue to operate in virtual settings.
- Sessions will be made available on specified media formats.

Note: In this Phase, the requirement wearing masks may be relaxed if allowed by CDC guidelines and city ordinances. Also, Sunday morning feeding for college students will be prepared and available to take back to campus.



PHASE

4

Sunday Morning Schedule (11am)

It is probable that we will no longer have to conduct multiple Sunday morning services in order to accommodate our membership. By Phase 4 the CDC guidelines to reduce the seating in the auditorium to less than 20% of capacity should be removed.

- Services are for all.
- Ushers will seat individuals/families as normal without staggered spacing.
- The Ministry of Music will vary between full choirs and smaller ensembles.

Sunday School

- In Person Sunday School classes will resume without limitation.
- Sunday School will continue to be available virtually.
- Sunday School will continue to be available to be viewed on all of our media platforms.



PHASE

4

Family Night Bible Study & Youth Breakouts

- The adult bible study will be in person on Wednesday evenings at 7.
 - Services are for all, and families will be seated together.
 - Each Individual/family will be separated by several seats.
 - Ushers will seat individuals/families as normal without staggered spacing.
- Our Elementary School Students will be onsite and in person on Wednesday Nights at 7.
- Middle and High School Students will be onsite and in person on Wednesday Nights at 7.

Auxiliaries

- Auxiliaries will return to in person meetings.

Note: In this Phase, the transportation ministry will once again be available and Family Style Meals will be available for college students.



SPECIAL THANKS TO ALL THE WELCOME BACK TEAM FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF THIS REGATHERING PROTOCOL.

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