

Guidelines & Requirements for Worship Services Attendees
June 5th, 2020

This document contains requirements and guidance for attending worship services of the Northwest Church of Christ. Our primary objective is to insure a safe environment for corporate worship. Requirements and guidance contained in this document are based upon direction from the Centers for Disease Control, Colorado Health & Environment, Jefferson County Health Department and the judgement of the Eldership.

Please make yourself aware of the following:

1. Message to Families with High Risk Individuals or Those with Uncertainties

Individuals and families with individuals that are considered to have high risk health concerns are strongly urged not to attend corporate worship. Individuals who are feeling uncertain regarding the safety of public gathering at this time are encouraged to follow their own upstanding of the current risk. Worship service in its entirety will be posted on the church web page (www.nwcofc.com) during the early afternoon each Sunday. Please join us in worship via this method. Disposable communion kits will continue to be available by contacting the church office.

2. Instructions for Those Who Are Sick

If you are feeling sick for whatever reason we ask you not attend corporate worship until you have fully recovered from your illness. If you have been in contact with someone who has tested positive for COVID 19 we implore you not to attend until you have been cleared by a healthcare professional.

3. Personal Protection:

- A. It will be **required for a mask or face covering** to be worn at all times while inside the building. The exception will be for the moment we are taking the bread & cup.
- B. A minimum of 6 feet of **social distance is required** to be practiced between families while in the building.

4. Instructions for Entering the Building

- A. In order to manage the occupancy of the building you are asked to sign up for a worship time with your family each Sunday by contacting the church office. We are **required to limiting building occupancy to no more than fifty people for each service**. You can receive information about signing up for a service via the church office.

- B. The only entrance allowed into the building will be through the main entrance leading into the foyer.
- C. The main entrance doors will be unlocked five minutes before each scheduled worship time. We recommended that you sit with your family in your car until the doors are opened. If you desire to stand outside the building doors before they are opened please maintain appropriate social distancing with your family.
- D. Please remain with your family and quickly find seating in the pews while maintaining appropriate social distancing from other individuals and families.
- E. **Families are required to sit together.**
- F. **It is required that no food or beverage** may be brought into the building, except for those families who would like to bring their own bread & juice for communion purposes.

5. **Restricted Use of the Building**

- A. The only areas of the building open during worship will be our foyer, auditorium, and restrooms on the eastside of the foyer.
- B. Please do not enter the west or east wing hallways, any classrooms, the gym, the kitchen or the office.

6. **Exiting the Building**

- A. At the conclusion of service, **you will be directed to exit the building by section**. Please do not stop along the way or in the foyer to speak to or contact anyone. Once you are outside the building you may visit with others. You are welcome to use the restroom facilities, but please remember to maintain appropriate social distancing.
- B. There are two reasons it is important to fully exit the building quickly. First, once everyone is out of the building a team of people will only have a short time to disinfect the building before the next service. It also allows those who need to leave to do so unhindered by people clumping together near the exit.
- C. Only the main entrance is to be used as an exit.

7. **Partaking of Communion and Offering**

- A. Communion will not be physically passed out during the service.
- B. Communion Kits will be available in the foyer.
- C. As you enter the building into the foyer one member of each family should pick up enough communion kits for their family to use during the service.

- D. If you have dexterity issues when removing the bread from the self-contained kits you may pick up a baggy containing the bread in addition to a disposable kit for the juice. We ask that only those who have issues opening the bread take a baggy
- E. Following communion, you may dispose of the communion material by using the small trash cans placed on the end of each pew.
- F. If you find it best, you are welcome to bring your own bread and juice from your home. Please remove any packing material as your leave.
- G. Your eldership encourages online giving or by mailing your checks to the church office. There will be a clearly marked offering container available as you exit the auditorium into the foyer. If you would like to place cash or check into the container you may do so as you exit the auditorium.

If you decide to approach someone please ask them if it is ok to come into closer contact with them. Good Christians have a rainbow of opinions and feelings about this matter. Out of concern for others please simply ask and respect their understanding on this matter.

Your eldership is aware that this new way of coming together will be very different for all of us. We are certain that our coming together to worship our Lord can be done while taking appropriate measures to protect ourselves, and our brothers and sisters in Christ. We will need to set aside our individual preferences for a period of time so that we can honor Christ by doing what is best for others. May our commitment to each other and our concern for each other be our way of modeling Christ-likeness to our community and to all who would ask of the hope we have within us.

Bible classes and all other face-to-face church-sponsored events will remain canceled until further notice.

