

Covenant for Re-Gathering at CMPC

***Updated July 21, 2021**

With thanks to our Lord Jesus Christ and for our brothers and sisters of Christ Memorial Presbyterian Church (CMPC) who have labored to prepare a way forward for returning safely to the sacred space, we offer the following guidelines and expectations to prepare for our in-person worship services beginning June 13th. Please be patient and kind with everyone as we all adjust and continue to show care through caution.

We believe we have sufficient room in our sanctuary to accommodate our worshippers while maintaining appropriate social distancing. If additional space is needed, worshippers can be seated in Fellowship Hall to view the live stream of the worship service.

Please take a moment to review this information and discuss it with the members of your household.

Guidelines

In order to create a safe space that is welcoming to our most vulnerable brothers and sisters, we ask that all worshippers commit to following these guidelines.

Engage in the following:

- Allow for appropriate social distance between worshippers who are not of the same household
- Limit the people in the elevator to members of the same household
- Limit the number of people in the restrooms to two or less at any given time
- Closely monitor young children to ensure they are following all of the guidelines

Refrain from the following:

- Eating or drinking while in the building (which would require removing face coverings)
- Shaking hands with or hugging anyone from a different household
- Attending in-person worship services if you are experiencing any of the following:
 - Common symptoms of COVID-19 infection
 - Received a COVID-19 within the last two weeks
 - Close contact with someone diagnosed with COVID-19 in the last two weeks
 - Tested for COVID-19 due to suspicion of exposure within the last two weeks

These guidelines will be updated as new information becomes available and metrics in our region change.

What to Expect When You Attend Worship

Arrival:

- Stagger entering the building and rooms within so as not to cause congestion at the doors/entryways
- Please do not sit at the end of a pew unless others are already sitting in the middle. This will help us maximize the use of the space while maintaining proper social distancing

During Worship:

- **Bulletins:** paper bulletins will be available (self-serve) but worshippers are encouraged to access the bulletin on their smart devices
- **Singing/Congregational Responses:** There will be congregational singing and responses during our service. However, we ask worshippers to sing and speak at a lower volume (as if speaking normally while conversing with someone standing close) to further reduce the aerosol emissions

- **Passing the Peace:** We will share the peace of Christ from our seats, using gestures and voices only.
- **Offering:** Offering plates will be placed near the entrances/exits of the sanctuary and should be used before or after the service. No offering plates will be passed during the service
- **Nursery/Sunday Experience:** Children will remain seated with members of their household during worship, which includes during the Moment with the Children. Our nursery and Sunday Experience program will not be offered until a later date. Worship bags will be available in the narthex.

Departure:

- **Dismissal:** At the conclusion of the service please exit the building promptly.
- **Fellowship:** We will not hold a fellowship hour indoors after worship. However, as weather permits some Sundays may include outdoor fellowship.

After Departure:

- **If you test positive for COVID-19 within 2 weeks** after attending worship (or any other gathering), contact the church office immediately so we can work with our local health authorities for contact tracing efforts.

We appreciate your patience, understanding, and commitment to these guidelines as we safely re-gather in person for worship at CMPC. More information will come as guidelines are updated and information is available for other gatherings and events.

Our online worship option will continue for those unable to join us in the sanctuary.

If you have any questions or concerns please Pastor Hoffman (pastor.hoffman@cmpecusa.org). Let us continue to pray for one another as we move forward and joyfully return to community face-to-face.