

St. Peter's Church Reopening Task Force

August 2021

Statement of Purpose: In light of the ongoing pandemic (Covid 19), this taskforce will develop guidelines for the re-opening of indoor services at St. Peter's on Sunday September 19, 2021. The taskforce will also include guidelines for other aspects of ministry and use of our church building.

Members: Sharon Baker, Charlene Bance (chair), Jenn Bodolus, Peg McConnell, Susanne Shaffer, Wayne Stratz, Pastor Andreas Wagner

We realize we are working with a moving target and will be adjusting our procedures as our attendance/circumstances require and per recommendations of the PA State and Montgomery County Health Departments. We will use a special email header format to announce any changes to our members.

Recommendations

Until further notice masks will be worn at all indoor services and by all group members meeting at our building. Soloists and vocal ensembles can sing if they are wearing singer's masks. Worship leaders while they are speaking may remove their mask and will be expected to be distanced from the congregation.

Sanctuary Air Flow recommendations from John Ledder

- Open Windows.
- Run A/C fan. Turn on ceiling fans.
- Have portable fans at front at choir door and altar door pulling air out.
- Leave entrance door from narthex to sanctuary open.
- Ozonators will be operated as per unit's instructions.

Worship Service

- Three services 8:30 live 9:30 Zoom 10:30 live
- The services will be no longer than 40 minutes.
- Streaming TBD for one service based on volunteer availability.
- Format will be similar to the outdoor service and same for both.
- A single sheet program will be available at the entrance.
- Pastor will host and operate the Zoom service.
- Children are welcome to attend with parents during worship and children 2 and older will be required to wear a mask.
- There will be a sign in sheet at the entrance for each service. Names only will be required for members. Visitors will be asked for telephone number. This is in the event that we require to contact trace.

Seating, Social Distancing

- Pews will be numbered and at one service people will be seated in even number pews and the other service in the odd numbered pews. A sign at the entrance will announce which pews to use. People should social distance in their family/friend pods.

Music and Singing

- The congregation is allowed to sing or hum along, but only through masks during the service. The bell choirs can play wearing masks and vocal groups can sing wearing singer's masks.
- The portable speaker system will be permanently set up in the sanctuary.

- The 8:30 service will feature all live music such as piano, organ, bells and vocalists.
- Taped music from our catalogue/archive of music will be used only for the 10:30 service but there could be some live music in addition.
- Music will be planned to fit into our 40 minute service time.

Communion and Offering

- Communion will be the prepackaged kits and will be available at the entrance. We will receive communion at our seats. Containers can be disposed as you leave in trash bins that will be available in the narthex.
- The little church will be set up for offering.

Preparation / Volunteers needed

- Altar Guild will set up the communion cup sets at the entrance and replenish between services.
- Reader(s) for the liturgy will be needed.
- If streaming is available a volunteer will be needed to set up/operate it.
- An usher should be assigned to each service to aid people entering the sanctuary and answer questions.
- Volunteers will be needed to operate the speaker system with taped music during the 10:30 service.
- The start of service bell ringer will be needed.
- Someone should be assigned to make sure the entrance is set up with sign in sheet, a box of pens with a discard box, hand sanitizer, and odd/even seating.
- Someone to be responsible to insure the sanctuary fans are on/set up.

Indoor service additional cleaning protocol from Jenn Bodolus

- Spray Covid disinfectant in Sanctuary after each service.
- After second service wipe down pews and clean bathrooms.
- Clean/disinfect Fellowship Hall after SPARK / Youth Group.

Hospitality

- We will not have a coffee hour. Any hospitality will be handled on a case by case basis.

Children, Youth and Family Ministry

- Regular Spark children's lessons will resume for Pre K through 6th grade parallel to the 10:30 service. Parents who want to have their children attend Spark will drop them off in the Fellowship Hall no earlier than 10:25 and pick them up after church. There will be two class groups and activities and lessons will be socially distanced.
- There will be no Spark on the first Sunday of each month. Activity sheets for children will be at the entrance on those Sundays.
- There will be no nursery during the service until further notice.
- Youth Group will meet in the Fellowship Hall at 10:30 on the first Sunday of each month. A second Youth Group meeting will be held each month via Zoom.
- First Communion will be held as a separate service.
- Confirmation classes will be a combination of in person and Zoom.

Other Services Funeral / Weddings

- Other special services will be handled within State and County Covid guidelines. Streaming can be available for certain services.

Non church building use

- We will continue to let our current renter and approved groups use the church but at this time no other groups. We will expect these groups to follow Covid guidelines as issued by state or local authorities including the use of masks.