

Reopening Survey

In an effort to be responsive and responsible in our decision to reopen our church facilities, Session would like to hear from you. The threat of the Covid-19 virus remains with us even as more businesses and services open. As our community begins to exercise more freedom and assume more risk of interpersonal interactions, we want to know what you think about gathering in groups and/or for in-person worship. Your response to this 15-20-minute survey will help us plan with you in mind.

Preliminary Questions

1. What statement best reflects your current response to the Covid-19 virus? (Choose one)

- I am extremely cautious and keep my risk exposure to absolute necessities only.
- I am moderately cautious and plan to keep my risk exposure to a minimum.
- I am cautious and will take a wait-and-see approach as to whether there is an increase in virus cases.
- I observe the necessary precautions but am starting to venture out on a limited basis.
- I think Sonoma County is relatively safe and by practicing standard safeguards I am willing to increase my level of risk to engage in routine activities.
- I do not consider the threat to be serious and therefore the risk factor is minimal.

Entering the Church Facilities

All persons who enter the church facilities during this pandemic must complete a screening process detecting symptoms of the virus which include answering questions of current health, virus exposure, travel, and a temperature check.

2. What do you think should be the church's highest priority as we consider how and when to reopen? (Choose one)

- We should not reopen the church as the most preventative measure against anyone contracting the virus while on our premises.
- We should continue to provide on-line worship and CD recordings for those unable or unwilling to attend in-person worship.
- We should be vigilant about sanitation and health safety practices of our church facilities to minimize the risk for those most vulnerable to the virus.
- We should reopen as soon as possible observing standard precautions so that those who want to gather might be able to be together with other church friends.
- We should not deny nor delay gathering at the church for small groups and/or in-person worship when other area churches are meeting.

Current Status

Since mid-March until now our current state has been to keep our church facilities closed and provide online worship, CD recordings of worship, and small group gatherings via zoom.

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Questions About Online Worship

3. What has been your worship experience during this period of Shelter-in-place? (Choose all that apply)

- I regularly (3-4x/month) participate through FPCSR's online worship service
- I occasionally participate (1-2x/month) through FPCSR's online worship service
- In addition to FPCSR, I visit other churches' online worship as well
- I have suspended my worship practice during this time

4. How would you describe your participation with our online worship? (Choose one)

- I click through each worship element from start to finish
- I mostly view all the worship elements, but skip over some
- I pick and choose what worship elements I most want to hear/experience
- I seldom make it all the way through the entire worship service

5. What do you most appreciate about the church's online worship? (Choose all that apply)

- I like that it follows the same pattern we experience for in-person worship
- I like being able to listen to a song(s) and replay it again
- I like that each worship element is a stand-alone feature
- I appreciate the production quality
- I like that I can worship when I choose
- I like the up-close encounter with the preacher

6. What change(s) might you recommend to the way we offer online worship?

Questions About Small Group Gatherings

7. For you to be willing to participate in a small group gathering at church or offsite what priorities are important to you to feel that the setting/event is a matter of low risk? (Choose all that apply)

- The gathering would need to be held outdoors and observe social distancing
- The gathering could be indoors provided space allows for 6' of distancing for all participants
- The group must not exceed 10-12 people
- Everyone would wear a mask for the duration of the gathering
- The gathering would not exceed one hour in length
- There would be no handouts, sharing of objects, or food items
- Gatherings would be infrequent

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Transition Period

Sometime during this period -- as cases decline yet the virus is still active --we will likely reopen the church with an abbreviated, in-person worship while continuing to offer our online worship for those who are unable or unwilling to attend. The following list provides a summary description of what this in-person worship might be like:

- *Limit of 100 people in our sanctuary at a time; a reservation system will determine seating availability*
- *Within the sanctuary we will observe physical distancing between family households (six feet apart)*
- *Wearing of masks during the entire worship experience*
- *No congregational speaking or singing*
- *Services will be approximately 40-45 minutes in length with the following worship format: Instrumental prelude; opening presented song; silent confession; assurance of forgiveness; Scripture reading, sermon, leader-led prayer; closing presented song; benediction; instrumental postlude*
- *No bulletins or paper products; no items in the pew racks; no offering plates*
- *An offering box (opening at the top) at the sanctuary entrance/exit*
- *Families will sit together -- no Kids Church or Youth Rendezvous or Sunday classes*
- *Worship order and church announcements will be shared via the visual screen*
- *Worshippers will enter the sanctuary from one direction and exit in a different direction*
- *No refreshments served or fellowship gatherings*
- *Non-touch greeting gestures will replace handshakes, hugs, or physical contact*

8. If we resume meeting for in-person worship with the described limitations in place, how might you return? (Choose one)

- Immediately
- Perhaps a month or two after in-person worship is resumed
- I will attend and see if I want to return or not
- Only after a vaccine for Covid-19 has become widely available
- Not until the pandemic is over

9. When you think about returning for in-person worship, what most excites you? (Choose one)

- Seeing friends
- Sharing worship with others
- Being in the sanctuary for worship
- Experiencing the sermon live
- Seeing/hearing our church musicians in person

10. With necessary limitations for in-person worship, which statement best reflects your preference? (Choose one)

- Limit the number of service options so as many people can be together as possible
- Schedule multiple service times with smaller number of attendees to reduce the risk of exposure

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11. What issues do you recommend the Reopening Task Force address before we reopen for in-person worship services? (list as many as you think are important)

Post-Virus

When a vaccine is available and the virus is under control, we will resume our pre-Covid-19 worship schedule with its usual format and a full schedule of church-related activities.

12. What statement best describes your anticipated involvement? (Choose one)

- I will resume active participation in worship and church activities
- I will limit my level of participation and involvement in church
- I will likely participate through some combination of in-person and Online worship and attend select church activities
- I will likely continue to participate only through online worship

13. As we reach the Post-Virus phase, what concerns do you have about our approach to resuming in-person worship and church activities?

Survey Taker Information

- I completed this survey as a single individual
- I completed this survey on behalf of myself and another person (spouse or friend)
- I completed this survey representing our entire family

Thank you!

We appreciate you taking time to share your thoughts and preferences with us. We do ask that you return this printed version with your completed answers to the church by July 12. We will measure your responses with our concern and care for the health and safety of our members, friends, and wider community in order to discern the best course of action regarding reopening.

We will continue to take seriously the teachings of Jesus and the Apostle Paul: "So in everything, do to others what you would have them do to you, for this sums up the Law and the Prophets." (Matthew 7.12) and "Let each of you look not to your own interests, but to the interests of others" (Philippians 2.4)