St Charles Christian Church

37 No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through Him who loved us. 38 For I am convinced that neither death nor life, neither angels nor principalities, neither the present nor the future, nor any powers, 39 neither height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God that is in Christ Jesus our Lord.…

This is a phased plan to reintroduce “in person” worship.

We encourage our members, especially those who are high risk to continue to worship with us online, but we realize the need to have as soon as possible some level of in person worship and contact. Many of our members have voiced concern about being in a group. We encourage them to continue in the worship spirit at home. We also recognize those who feel the need to be together for worship in a safe manor. This is a response to maintain our sense of church as we go forward in this crisis.

Key Points:

- Worship will continue to be on-line.
- Small groups, study groups may resume meeting
- Regular Office Hours resume
- No fellowship time or food or drink between services.

Worship

1) Continued social distancing guidelines and occupancy restrictions apply to our church. Current guidelines limit worship occupancy to less than 50 for space available.

2) Technology capability in the Narthex will be assessed to determine whether it may be used as additional worship space, if necessary. Update technology, if needed and feasible.

3) Worship may be in the sanctuary only, or in the sanctuary and overflow in the Narthex. Live stream the entire 8:45 service and 10:45 service, so those who choose to stay at home will have a "full" worship experience. We encourage all members and friends to worship at home especially if they are in an at-risk group.

4) Eliminate use of greeters. Bulletins, offering and communion will be available as self-service as worshiper enters the sanctuary. We will use the individually wrapped communion as they are available. They are currently on back order, but we have enough for several weeks.
5) Doors will be left open as much as weather allows, and we will encourage leaving doors open and coming in and leaving through side doors and front doors as options.

6) Handouts and bulletins will be available for pickup outside the sanctuary.

**Adult Groups**

1) Beginning May 10th, adult small groups, study groups, and fellowship groups may resume meeting in person -if group members choose to do so, and if social distancing guidelines and building occupancy restrictions are followed. Groups should try to meet in larger rooms if possible.

2) Social distancing guidelines should be followed regardless of meeting location. Group leaders and members will decide the protocol for masks, etc.

**Children's Groups Sparks, Ignite and Camp Glory**

Youth leaders will provide guidelines for activities

1) Beginning May 10th, groups may resume meeting in person if an adequate number of adult volunteers agree to serve. Start dates, meeting locations, and meeting frequency will be determined by group leaders. Group leaders will decide the protocol for masks, ppe, etc. Currently there is no planned start date for Christian education and no plans to go forward with VBS. Susie will update us further.

2) Camp Glory has set out a rigorous protective plan and will begin a smaller program starting the day after Memorial Day.

**Church Office, Administrative, and Custodial**

1) Regular office hours resumed May 4.

2) Since each staff member has an individual office, social distancing is basically automatic. If a staff member believes he/she should still work at home it will be fine, if the days are coordinated with other staff members.

3) Regular meetings of the Church Board and Finance Team may resume in the building, and other teams and committees may meet as needed. Groups will be expected to adhere to social distancing guidelines and building occupancy restrictions and should meet at times outside of other activities.

4) Once the building is partially reopened, custodial work will focus on areas that will be used, with thorough cleanings before and after each gathering. **ALL groups**
using the facility will be expected to inform the office as to which spaces they will be using, and/or have used.

**Outside Groups and Special Services**

1) Outside groups that normally use the building (i.e. Boy Scouts) may resume meeting if social distancing and building occupancy restrictions are observed.

2) Special services such as weddings and funerals may be held in the sanctuary if social distancing guidelines and building occupancy restrictions are followed.

3) Election Day is scheduled to be held on June 2 and there will be no other activities in the building on that day.

This plan will be reviewed by church staff and lay leaders and will be adjusted as needed. Proposed adjustments will be shared with, and approved by, the Board before being implemented.

These protocols should be followed:

- Invitations to ‘in person’ worship will be targeted to only regular church attendees. We will not be promoting ‘in person’ worship via media for the time being.

- Church members who are known to have had any contact with known COVID-19 confirmed cases should avoid services for 15 days.

- Attendees will be advised to perform temperature checks at home on all attendees prior to attending the service. Individuals that are ill or have fevers or under voluntary quarantine must not attend.

- High-risk individuals will be advised not to attend the ‘in person’ worship

- Attendees will be advised to bring their own personal protective equipment, including masks and gloves. A limited number will be available at the church.

- Attendees will be advised not to engage in handshaking or other physical contact

- Hand sanitizer will be available for use throughout the facility

- The ‘in person’ worship service will be limited to 40, which is 10 under what we believe our maximum is.

- Family units may sit closer together but otherwise the maximum social distancing possible will be used, however, at a minimum, the Center for Disease Control and Prevention recommended protocol will be observed with a minimum distance of at least six feet

- People should enter and exit the building in such a manner to ensure social distancing
Ventilation will be increased as much as possible, opening windows and doors, as weather permits.

These procedures will be communicated to church members in advance of the service.

Attendees will be advised to wash their clothes following the service.

If Church leadership becomes aware of a clear, immediate, and imminent threat to the safety of the attendees or cannot follow the protocols listed above, the gathering will be immediately disbanded. The pastor has full discretion to request adjourning church at any point the pastor deems necessary.

- Splitting out chairs and marking designated sitting areas to keep social distancing at least six feet apart before, during, and after the worship service.
- Opening multiple entrances to encourage socially distanced foot traffic.
- Propping doors open to prevent the need for congregants to touch doors while entering and exiting the church or sanctuary.
- Suspending passing of any items in the church.