

In-Person Worship for Cairo United Methodist Church

Drafted – July 13th, 2020

Dear church family,

Thank you so much for your patience during these last few months as we have all been learning how to navigate through these new and uncertain times. Although we are looking forward to worshipping together, we also understand that you may not feel comfortable doing so. We not only want you to be safe and healthy, we want you to feel safe as well! That is why we will continue offering our Sunday worship services online at 11AM so you can worship in the comfort of your home. We are also introducing a new way for you to come to church and tune in by broadcasting our services to the FM radio in your car. The FM transmitter will only work as far as our church parking lot and surrounding area, and we will post our preset FM station number when you arrive.

For the safety and well-being of those joining us for worship, we have limited the capacity in the Sanctuary for each service.

Here's what to expect for in-person worship starting **Sunday, August 9th** at 11AM.

BEFORE YOU LEAVE HOME

- If you are able, check your temperature and the temperatures of everyone who will be coming with you. If anyone's temperature is over 100.4, please stay home.
- If you (or anyone at home) feel sick, please stay home.
- If you (or anyone at home) have had a cough, shortness of breath, or any of the COVID-19 symptoms within the last 24 hours, please stay home and contact your medical professional.
- If you have been tested for COVID-19 but have not received the results, please stay home.
- If you are sick, **DO NOT COME TO CHURCH**. We will miss you, but we will all be grateful that you stayed home.
- **Please go to the restroom BEFORE you leave home**. The restrooms will be open for emergencies, but cleaning will be limited.

WHEN YOU ARRIVE

- Temperatures will be taken in your vehicle under the breezeway when you arrive, so please remain inside your vehicle. If any individual has a temperature of 100.4 or higher, all those in that vehicle will be asked to return home.
- Doors open 20 MINUTES prior to the 11AM worship service; please remain in your car until the doors open. When exiting your vehicle, we ask that you wear your mask and allow 6 feet of distance between your household and others while walking in.
- Please refrain from hugging and touching members from other households as you enter into the Sanctuary.
- All attendees will enter the building through either doors of the **main entrance** into the Sanctuary (entrance closest to the church bell). For those that require wheelchair access, please park near the **main entrance** with a ramp.
- As you enter into the vestibule, there will be an usher who will dispense hand-sanitizer before you seat yourself. Please make sure the pew you choose has enough seating for your household to maintain 6 feet distance from another household. We have marked off alternate pews to help you do so.
- Once the Sanctuary is filled to capacity, as instructed by the CDC and our governor's guidelines, the Annex will be available for use as an overflow area. When you enter the Annex, please continue to maintain all safety guidelines (i.e., wear your mask, keep 6 feet apart).
- Please note, the kitchen area will be closed off except for emergencies, and the water fountain has been turned off.

MASKS & FACE COVERINGS

- We expect all attendees to wear a mask/face covering; if you forget your mask or do not have one, a mask will be provided for you.

NURSERY & CHILDREN'S MINISTRY

- There will be no childcare services until further notice.
- We will have activity packs available for young children.

WORSHIP

- If you have brought your tithes and thanksgiving to worship, please leave your gifts in the offering plate located in the vestibule as you come in.

- In order to reduce the number of objects we handle and share, we will not be offering Holy Communion during our worship services for the time being. We have also removed all Bibles, hymnals, offering envelopes and pens. We encourage you to bring your own Bibles to worship.
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- Although there will be a reduced amount of congregational singing, we ask that you keep your masks on during the entire duration of our time together.

LEAVING

- After our worship service concludes in the Sanctuary, please wait for the usher to dismiss you, row by row, towards the front exits on either side of the prayer rail. Please do not congregate in the hallways and do not exit the same way you have entered.
- If you have worshiped in the Annex, please leave the area through the double doors and continue following the social distancing guidelines back to your vehicle.

GRACE & PATIENCE

- These are strange days and we are all learning how to navigate through this together. Let us remember to please be gracious and patient with one another.
- If there is an attendee in our worship service who tests positive for Covid-19, our in-person worship will be postponed for 2 weeks and we will revert back to our online format only. We will inform the congregation as quickly as possible.