



Asbury United Methodist Church

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August 18, 2020

Re-opening Asbury United Methodist Church for Worship

Dear Parishioners,

The Asbury Administrative Council met on August 17th to once again discuss the reopening of the church for worship. The members present spent considerable time reviewing the latest Covid-19 data at both the state and local levels. We also discussed the protocol that would be necessary if we did determine that it was time to reopen. Following discussion, the Ad Council voted to reopen the church building for worship beginning September 6, 2020. The following protocol was established in an attempt to provide a safe environment for those who decide to attend worship in person.

Protocol for In Person Worship

- If you have any flu-like symptoms please stay home in order to protect others.
- Social distancing (6 ft spacing) should be practiced at all times with non-family members. (State of Ohio order)
- Face mask coverings are required for all those 10 years of age and older. (State of Ohio order)
- A hand sanitizer station and additional face masks will be available if needed.
- The seating arrangement will temporarily be every other pew per family, maintaining the 6 ft. social distancing rule. We will begin filling pews from the front of the sanctuary and working our way back as people arrive.
- Children must be with an adult family member or guardian at all times in worship. The nursery will be open for emergency child care. There will be no staff on duty, and all toys will be removed during this time. The children will need to be attended by an adult member of their family.
- No personal physical contact (handshakes or hugs).
- Enter the church by going up the ramp from the parking lot and go through the double doors and turn right into the sanctuary. Continue to the middle aisle and proceed to your seat.
- Exit the sanctuary through the side aisles and doorways and then out the double doors at the ramp or down the steps and out the double doors to the parking lot.
- Bulletins and collections plates will be available at the back of the sanctuary. Please contact Linda Michael with announcements and prayer requests.
- At this time all classrooms, upstairs and downstairs are off limits (except to access the 1st floor restroom).
- The downstairs Fellowship Hall, Kitchen, and Restrooms are also off limits (Please use the restroom on the 1st floor). No other doors are to be used to enter or exit the church building.
- The A/V booth in the back of the sanctuary is only to be used by the person operating the equipment and the pastor.
- All Bibles, hymnals, pencils, etc. have been removed from the pews temporarily; scripture and music will appear on the screen. However, please feel free to bring your personal Bible.



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The people of The United Methodist Church®

- The children's time message will be given while they remain seated with their families for now. Also, temporarily, there will be no children's church.
- If you bring items for the Food Cupboard please leave them on the front porch and Nancy Collier will take them inside.
- The sanctuary and all high-touch areas will be cleaned and sanitized after each Sunday service.
- At this time the Fellowship Hall is not available for groups to rent or use.

We are looking forward to worshipping together in our church building once again, even though it will be quite a bit different than when we closed in March. For anyone who is still not comfortable with attending worship in person, the Sunday worship service will be recorded and posted online Sunday afternoon. The Prayer Circle will continue on Tuesday at noon in the church parking lot.

We are all looking forward to taking this next step toward getting back to "normal". Please be patient as we attempt to safely open our doors once again.

Blessings,

Dan Russell – Ad Council Chairperson