

Greetings Church Family!

I am excited to announce that we will be reopening the church on July 5th, 2020. Yes, I am aware that this is a Sunday and this is by design. The Church will only be open on Sundays through the Summer. I know that our Saturday night folks will be disappointed, but due to the volume of cleaning between services, we can only open on Sundays for right now.

We have attached the regulations for coming back to church. These regulations must be followed otherwise individuals will be asked to leave. I am going to highlight some things in this letter from the plan and also some things that are not on the plan but that will be implemented.

-The Church building will not be open until 9:50am. Please understand that we are opening for worship only. The only entrance that will be open from the outside is by the parking lot. The doors facing Main St. will remain locked from the outside.

-The ushers will direct you where to sit. We will seat from the back of the worship space to the front. This means you likely will not get "your seat". Please be patient during this time as it is not easy for anyone. There are no pew cushions on the pews.

-There will be no singing hymns, taking prayer requests (you can still submit them to Pastor Josh, Pastor Barbara, or the office during the week), saying the Call to Worship or Unison Prayer during worship.

-Friendship Hall will be off limits and there will be no fellowship time after worship. There will only be one entrance in and out of the church for worship.

-The only restrooms that will be available are the ones on the second floor (near the sanctuary). We have ordered and installed toilet seat covers for your use.

-Lastly, we are asking that only those who have had to call in attend worship at this time. We know many of you want to come back, but the individuals who have had to call in have not had the pleasure of watching live. Please be understanding as we will try to have everyone back as soon as we can.

Please look over the entire plan that is attached.

Blessings,

Pastor Josh and the Church Council

UMC at Milltown Reopen Plan and Regulations

Gathering Size: 40

Social Distance: 6 feet apart

Human contact: no greeting line, no fellowship time afterwards

Arriving to the Church

- We will send out an email and formal letter in the mail with the outlined plan. We will put the plan up on the website and on Facebook. We will also inform the congregation during the announcements as well.
- We will encourage people to bring their own masks, however some will be available to those who need it. We are requiring people to wear masks for the entire duration inside the building. Gloves are optional. We will have a garbage receptacle available for disposable masks and gloves outside of the building.
- People will park in our same parking lot.
- Masks required at all times while in the building. Please remain six feet apart. Sign out front directing people to the parking lot entrance. Sign on elevator informing people that there is only one family at a time.
- We will prop the door open for people. The only staircase available to the worship space will be the staircase by the parking lot.
- We will have sanitizer available at the entrance of the church, outside the elevator on the first and second floor, the entrance to the worship space, and at six different locations in the worship space.
- We encourage people who are at risk to stay home, require those with fever and/or cough to stay home.

Worship Experience – WE WILL CONTINUE OUR ONLINE SERVICES

- We will not have greeters for the time being.
- Sue will keep Sharon informed of the inventory of masks, hand sanitizer, appropriate cleansers.
- No scripts for greeters, but have a one page laminated (easy to wipe down) outline of what to do.
- We will turn people away by locking the door from the outside once we have reached the capacity due to guidelines set in by the CDC. The door will still remain an exit from the inside.
- We will have signs that state masks required at all times while in the building, temperature will be checked at the door, remain 6 feet apart, restrooms available on the second floor, hand sanitizer, and one family unit

in the elevator at a time. Sign outside the worship space that will tell people to please wait to be seated.

- Pastor Barbara and Alla will be the only ones singing during worship.
- We will remain seated at all times during the service.
- We will have an offering plate up front for people to place their offering in. It will be non contact.
- We have ordered non contact Communion juice and wafer in one that we will utilize.
- We will be removing all hymnals, bibles, pew cushions, and sign-in pads from the pews for folks safety.
- We will email the bulletins out and people are welcome to utilize them on their phones. Pastor Barbara and Pastor Josh will introduce each portion of worship to the congregation to lead them in the service.
- Each person in worship will have their own microphone on their own pulpit.
- We will only have the second floor bathrooms available. There will be soap in each bathroom and hand sanitizer is available throughout the Church. We will have paper seat covers available.

Nursery and Sunday School

- We will not offer nursery or Sunday School at this time. Children are welcome in the service.

Fellowship Activities – RECOMMENDED! No fellowship, food or coffee hours at this time.

- There will be no fellowship time after worship.

Meetings – RECOMMENDED! Meetings continue online and by conference call.

- All meetings will continue for the time being via conference call.

Outside Group Usage

- Outside groups will be revisited come August for possible September accessibility.

Office Practices

- People entering the office must wear a mask outside of the staff. Staff is recommended to wear when interacting with those entering the building.
- Hand sanitizer is available in the office for the staff.