



REDEEMER
LUTHERAN
CHURCH

Updated August 15, 2020

Transforming Lives Through God's Grace for Authentic Christian Living.

REOPENING PLAN

Redeemer is committed to providing a safe and healthy facility for our staff, members, and visitors. This plan was developed in response to the COVID-19 pandemic to ensure we implement strategies and procedures to preserve public health. It is expected that the entire church will have a role in implementing this plan to mitigate transmission of COVID-19 within our facility and our community that would result in a disruption to our mission. Therefore, all persons in our facility will be expected to comply with all aspects of this plan. The church leadership and council have full support in enforcing the provisions of this policy.

Due to the fluid nature of these uncertain times this plan for reopening is subject to possible alteration based on guidance from the State of Minnesota Department of Health, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), and the ELCA.

By presenting this plan, and communicating it clearly, we seek to empower our members with the information necessary to make decisions based on their personal judgement and risk factors. We support each of you as you process what is best for you and your family.



REOPENING CERTAINITIES

Because of the nature of the COVID-19 virus, and subsequent concerns felt throughout the community, there are obvious considerations that must be communicated to all of our potential worshippers, visitors and staff regardless of any specific reopening model and strategy we introduce.

Please Stay Home If:

You have any of the following symptoms:

- Fever greater than 100 degrees
- Difficulty breathing or shortness of breath
- Persistent cough
- Persistent pain or pressure in your chest
- New loss of taste or smell
- Chills
- Repeated shaking with chills
- Muscle pain
- Sore throat
- Persistent headache
- Nausea
- Vomiting
- Diarrhea

You have reasonable suspicion that you:

- Have been around someone who has tested positive for COVID-19
- Have been around someone suspected of having COVID-19

You have traveled outside area:

- If you have traveled in areas that have a high infection rate within the past 14 days.

MINNESOTA STATE GUIDELINES

Plans Posted

A copy of Redeemer Lutheran's Reopening Plan will be available at various locations around the church and available on our website at rlc-wbl.org.

Symptoms Posted

COVID-19 related symptoms will be posted reminding people to remain home should they be experiencing any of the symptoms listed above. Staff must pre-screen prior to entering the building.

Vulnerable Populations

If you are 65 and older or have certain underlying medical conditions, we strongly encourage you to remain home and participate online.

MAJOR CONSIDERATIONS

Enclosed Spaces

The nature of enclosed spaces increases the chance of infection due to the longevity of viral particles in the air and on surfaces. Redeemer's Worship Center must be arranged in such a way to minimize both proximity and length of possible exposure. Therefore, worship will be modified for shorter services (allowing time to disinfect areas) and additional spacing between worshipers in order to provide adequate social distancing. This will also be the policy for small group opportunities.

*The Church is
not the building,
it's the people,
it's not just the gathering,
it's also the scattering.*

- John Wimber

Singing/Praying Aloud

Due to the increased transmission of COVID-19 particles during congregational singing and praying aloud, these parts of worship will be minimal in the initial phases, and masks will be required. We will offer special music from soloists and musicians to add to the worship experience.

Bibles and Hymnals

Bibles and hymnals, visitor/prayer request cards and offering envelopes will be removed from pews until further notice. Song lyrics and Bible passages will be on the Worship Center screens.

Children/Youth

The Pray Ground and nursery will be closed until further notice. No "busy bags" will be available.

Masks

Masks will be required in the first phases of reopening. Worshipers are encouraged to bring their own masks, however, disposable masks will be available if needed. Hand sanitizers will also be available at entrances of the Worship Center.

Partners

- | | |
|----------------------|---|
| LADC: | Classes confined to LADC designated areas. No shared space with RLC/Staff and members. |
| Lyngblomsten: | Virtual programming until further notice check lyngblomsten.org/2ndHalf for more information |



PHASES

PLEASE NOTE: Different ministry areas may move through the phases at different times (i.e. worship may be in one phase while small groups are at a different phase). This will be communicated to the congregation.

No dates have been assigned to these phases to allow for flexibility to adjust to current conditions based on state and local Government, CDC requirements and ELCA guidelines.

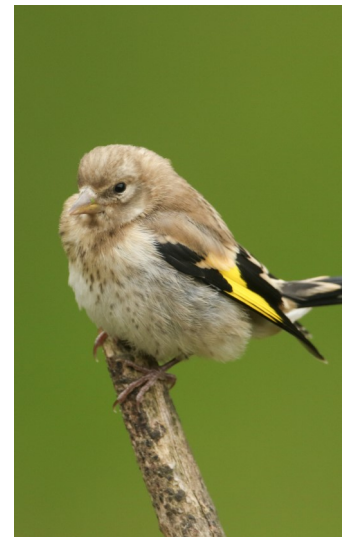
	PHASE 1	PHASE 2	PHASE 3
Church Building	Closed.	Reduced church building hours. Scheduled appointments only. Masks required.	Increase church building hours. Masks required.
Staff	Essential staff on-site, all other work remotely.	Staff working reduced hours on site, and balance remotely.	Staff working increased hours on site, and balance remotely
Worship	Online worship only.	Begin in-person worship for funerals, weddings and baptisms: limited capacity at 25%, every other pew and 6 ft. distancing within pew. Disinfect after each service. Masks required. No congregational singing.	Begin weekly Sunday worship at 25% capacity within Worship Center as determined from Phase 2 still observing 6 ft. distancing. Disinfect after each service. Masks required. No congregational singing.
Community Meals - Funeral Luncheons CNO Coffee Corner	Closed	Closed	Closed
Education/Small Groups	Online	Online	Online/Outside (if weather permits)
Events	Cancelled	Online/Outside (if weather permits)	Online/Outside (if weather permits)
Building Users (Community groups)	Cancelled	Cancelled	Cancelled

PHASES

	PHASE 4	PHASE 5
Church Building	Regular business hours. Visitors check in at church office.	Regular business hours.
Staff	Staff back on-site full-time	Staff back on-site full-time
Worship	Begin regular weekly Sunday services. 50%, every other pew and 6 ft. distancing within pew. Disinfect after each service. Masks required. No congregational singing.	Increase capacity within Worship Center following state guidelines.
Community Meals - Funeral Luncheons CNO Coffee Corner	No buffet style offerings. Food servers required. Social distancing.	Open
Education/Small Groups	On-site education may increase within building hours, maximum is dependent on state recommendations.	All education at scheduled times.
Events	Open, following state guidelines.	Open.
Building Users (Community groups)	Limited capacity, following state guidelines.	Open

*Peace I leave
with you;
my peace I give
to you.
I do not give to you
as the world gives.
Do not let your
hearts be troubled,
and do not let them
be afraid.*

John 14:27



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PHASE 3 DETAILS

Worship

- Services will be only 45 minutes maximum in length.
- Masks will be required.
- Sign-in required to attend service.
- Ushers and greeters will be wearing masks and gloves.
- Serving communion will be on hold until the Worship & Music Team works out a safe and efficient method for distribution to the congregation.
- Offering baskets will be placed at the back of the Worship Center. Online giving/Simply Giving are encouraged.
- Water fountains will not be in use.
- Restrooms will be available with touch free hand soap.
- Hand sanitizers will be available at church entrance areas and Worship Center entrances.
- Each worship vocalist and speaker will be given their own microphones.
- The altar area will be set up in order to comply with social distancing standards for worship team participants.
- There will be no shaking of hands or any physical contact that would risk the required 6 ft. social distancing requirement.

Seating

- Every other pew will be closed.
- 6 ft. distancing will be maintained between worshipers within each pew.
- Ushers will guide you to your seat. Seating from front of Worship Center to the back. Ushers will dismiss worshipers from back of the Worship Center to the front, thereby adhering to social distancing. Worshipers will be encouraged to move quickly outside to discourage congregating in the Welcome Center/Atrium.

Kids/Youth

- The Pray Ground will be closed until further notice.
- Children will be required to sit with their families during service.
- Children will not be called to come forward for the children's message.
- "Busy Bags" will not be available. Parents should bring items to keep their children entertained (i.e. crayons and coloring sheets or books).
- The nursery will also be closed until further notice.

Doors

- The west and east entrances will be open. Worshipers are encouraged to bring their own masks. Hand sanitizers will be available for members' use.
- Weather permitting, outside doors will be propped open.
- Restroom and Worship Center doors will remain propped open when not in use.
- Weather permitting, emergency door in the Worship Center will be propped open.

Atrium

- All seating will be removed from the Atrium.
- Congregants are welcome to move outside prior to and following worship for conversation abiding by the 6 ft. social distancing guidelines.

Miscellaneous

- Coffee corner will be closed.
- Masks and gloves are available for volunteers.
- Staff and volunteers will be required to wear masks.

PHASE 4 DETAILS

All Areas

- Similar to Phase 3 with increased building hours, increased staff hours and increased worship capacity in worship. Masks will be required.
- Education and Small Groups dependent on state recommendations.
- The Atrium will be open with proper social distancing. However, masks will be required for those choosing to congregate with others in the Atrium.



“The work of the church is essential.

*The work of the caring for the lonely, the marginalized,
and the oppressed is essential.*

*The work of speaking truth to power and
seeking justice is essential.*

*The work of being a loving, liberating, and life giving
presence in the world is essential.*

*The work of welcoming the stranger, the refugee and
the undocumented is essential.*

*The work of reconciliation and healing and
caring is essential.*

*The church does not need to “open” because the church never
“closed”. We who make us the Body of Christ, the church, love God
and our neighbors and ourselves much that we will stay away from
our buildings until it is safe.*

We are the church.”

Bishop-elect of the Episcopal Church in the Diocese of Missouri,

Deon K. Johnson

Visit our website for livestream options and opportunities to connect with the
RLC community.

www.rlc-wbl.org