

Guidelines for Re-opening Wesley United Church – Version 2 – 18-6-20

In recognition of the legal requirements for safety related to COVID-19 the following practices must be followed in order to have in-person church services.

Phase 1 – No in-person services

Phase 2 – In-Person Services

Requirements for a Service:

1. All congregants who attend church must be free of any signs/symptoms of COVID-19 that includes but isn't limited to:
 - a. Cough
 - b. Sneezing
 - c. Sore throat
 - d. Fever
2. Any person who exhibits any signs or symptoms of the above or refuses to wear a mask while in church will not be allowed to attend services and must leave the church.
3. One entrance in and one entrance out of the church must be maintained with clearly identified way markers for church congregants to follow. Doors will be propped open to decrease the touch surface points during services and increase air flow. Social distancing for entering the church will be identified and maintained so that a 6' distance is realized.
4. A record will be kept of all congregants who attend the service with their name, date and phone number in case of an outbreak so that the Public Health Unit can do a contact tracing process.
5. Upon entrance to the building all congregants must wash their hands with the hand sanitizer provided. A waste receptacle will be provided to discard wipes or paper towels if used.
6. After sanitizing their hands, and wearing a mask, congregants must complete a risk questionnaire to ensure they do not have any signs and/or symptoms of COVID-19 or have not been exposed.
 - a. This will be done verbally with a volunteer.
 - i. A barrier will be erected for the volunteer to stand behind to get the information.
 - ii. Any volunteer doing this role must wear a mask.
7. Congregants must wear a mask while attending the service.
8. Seating in the church must maintain social distancing standards of 6' between congregants and families. This will be accomplished at Wesley by:
 - a. Tape marking off distance will be placed on every other pew row as an indicator of where to sit.
 - b. Every other pew will be blocked off.
 - c. Church goers must wait until the person before them has been seated before proceeding to their seat.
 - d. Church must not exceed 30% capacity. For our church we have identified that this is at maximum 28 people. However, it also assumes 2 people from the same family attending together.

9. There will be no social time following church.
10. There will be no physical collection done during the service. Congregants can leave an envelope in the collection plate as they exit the building.
11. There will be no singing during the service by the congregation.
 - a. Soloists can sing if they maintain a social distance of 12'. This can be accomplished if they are positioned in the back row of the choir loft.
 - b. The congregants can hum along to the hymns.
 - c. No hymn books or bibles will be available in the pews.
12. Social distancing between congregants must be observed at all times, therefore there will be no physical contact with other congregants or the minister before, during, or after services.
13. Zoom services will be offered in conjunction with in-person services for the foreseeable future.

Requirements for the Building:

1. Signage communicating public health messages and requirements must be installed and posted at the entrance of the building.
2. A record of all persons entering the building at any time must be kept that includes the name, date and phone number in case of an outbreak.
3. Ensure that Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) is available for the minister should he choose to use it during his working hours. (WSIB and Ontario Government Requirement).
4. Provision of a Health Unit recommended cleaning product must be available to clean the church sanctuary and hall (including washrooms) for the following situations:
 - a. After every church service
 - b. After every time someone is in the building
 - c. After every time a tenant uses the building
5. Cleaning process must include:
 - a. All touch points within the sanctuary and hall building
 - i. Door knobs
 - ii. Railings
 - iii. Pews
 - iv. Seats
 - v. Tables
 - vi. Sinks and Countertops
 - vii. Taps
 - viii. Toilets
 - ix. Floors

Phase 3 – TBD.