

RESUMING IN-PERSON WORSHIP SERVICES AT SUPPLEE

Projected Date is Sunday July 19, 2020

Our Commitments to You

- We have focused on providing a safe return to in-person worship for our congregation and church staff.
- We have developed a plan that follows federal, state, and local guidelines to safely open the sanctuary for worship.
- We will continue to provide a quality on-line worship service for those choosing to stay home
- We will monitor how reopening is working in Pennsylvania and across the country to assess how Supplee should adjust plans or respond to emerging information.

What we know

- We know that about half of the congregation would like to return to in-person worship and half plan to continue worshipping at home.
- We know that a safe return requires enhanced ventilation in the sanctuary.
- We know that enhanced cleaning protocols are required after each worship service.

WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW BEFORE YOU ATTEND AN IN-PERSON SERVICE

- Please stay home if you are not feeling well.
- You will be required to reserve seats for each service using a web-based application. You may also call the church office to reserve a space. (*Details are being finalized.*)
- We will only be using the sanctuary and the restrooms in the adjacent hallway. The rest of the church building will be closed to the congregation.
- Face masks will be required for everyone while on the church property. Please bring a face mask for every member of your family over the age of 2. If you are unable to bring one, the ushers will have a supply for your use. Exceptions to wearing masks are allowed for certain medical reasons (breathing difficulty, mental health, or disability).
- Children will stay with their families throughout the service.
- We will not offer children's Discovery Time or Sunday School until further notice.
- Childcare will not be available.

WHAT TO EXPECT WHEN YOU ARRIVE AT SUPPLEE

- The sanctuary doors will open 30 minutes prior to the service. No other doors will be used to enter the building. Please arrive 20 to 30 minutes before the service, as it will take added time to seat everyone.
- You will be asked to respect social distancing while waiting for entrance to the sanctuary.
- An usher will greet you and confirm the number and names of those in your party.
- Upon arrival every person will have their temperature taken by an usher with a handheld infrared thermometer. Individuals with body temperatures over 100.4 °F will not be admitted.
- An usher will guide your party to your reserved seats (this may not be where you “usually” sat in the past).
- There will be no coffee hour after the service. An usher will direct your party’s exit from the sanctuary and the building.

WHAT TO EXPECT FOR AN IN-PERSON WORSHIP SERVICE

THE SERVICE

- The service will probably be shorter than in the past to limit indoor exposure.
- There will be no Bibles, hymnbooks, or other papers in the pews.
- Worship bulletins will not be distributed.

SEATING

- Every 3rd pew will be used to maintain social distancing; open pews may be used for coats, umbrellas, walkers, etc.
- An usher will direct you to your pew before the service.
- Members of the same household may sit together per pre-reserved seating. Social distance must be maintained between others in the congregation.
- Adjustments to seating cannot be accommodated the day of service, as seating arrangements are pre-planned.

MUSIC

- Music will be provided by organ, piano or other instruments. Vocal music will only be played on video on the screen.
- Until more data are available, there will be no singing in any service

WHAT TO EXPECT FOR AN IN-PERSON WORSHIP SERVICE

OFFERING

- Offering boxes will be placed at the entrance/exit to the sanctuary. Offering plates will not be passed during the service.

COMMUNION

- On Communion Sundays, pre-packaged Communion sets containing a wafer and juice will be used. These packages will be picked up when you enter the sanctuary.

CHILDREN

- For the time being, childcare will not be available.
- For the time being, Discovery Time and children's Sunday School will not be available.

DISMISSAL

- The pastor will begin the dismissal process and ushers will guide attendees to their assigned exit door.
- Attendees will be asked to move away from exit doors to maintain social distancing.

WHAT TO EXPECT FOR AN IN-PERSON WORSHIP SERVICE

SOCIAL TIME

- There will be no coffee hour, but you may choose to greet your friends outside after the service while wearing masks and respecting social distancing, please.

ADULT EDUCATION

- Adult Education will continue as an online class using Zoom. The start time may be adjusted to allow people who attend the in-person service to travel home.

PREPARING THE SANCTUARY FOR WORSHIP

- The sanctuary will be clean and ready for worship services.
- Hand sanitizer stations will be available at the sanctuary entrance.
- Instructions for hand washing and disinfecting bathroom fixtures will be posted in the bathrooms.
- Guests must check-in with an usher at the welcome station at sanctuary entrance. No other doors will be available for entry.
- Ushers have received training on all the new procedures and will be prepared to assist if there are questions.
- To provide adequate ventilation, the air conditioning and fans will be on and all windows will be open. Exchange of fresh air is one important way to avoid COVID-19 infection. In the event of heavy rain, the in-person service may be canceled because we cannot open the windows.

THINGS FOR YOU TO CONSIDER

- COVID-19 infection is particularly dangerous for older individuals and those with underlying medical conditions. The Presbyterian Church USA urges caution for everyone over 55 years of age.
- These conditions have been associated with increased risk of severe COVID-19 infection: chronic kidney disease, COPD, obesity (BMI of 30 or higher), heart disease, sickle cell disease, and Type 2 diabetes.
- Attending an in-person service is a personal choice, but please know we fully respect your choice to continue using our on-line service to worship at home if you have concerns.

QUESTIONS?

- Please email the church office at office@supplepc.org

Please stay connected to Supplee through our website (www.supplepc.org) and through our Instagram (SuppleeChurch) or Facebook (Supplee Presbyterian Church) pages to see the latest information and news.