

Crestwood

Baptist Church



May 5, 2020

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Dear Church Family,

I want to start by apologizing for the length of this letter. However, I realize the times we are living in dictate a longer letter than usual to ensure we are passing along correct information. So, I want to encourage you to read the following correspondence as we prepare to resume worship at Crestwood.

On April 27th, Governor Abbott issued a three-phase plan to reopen the economy of the State of Texas. Phase one provided guidelines for places of worship to reopen at 25% capacity of building size beginning May 1st.

As a result of that order, I would like to share with you the plan the leadership and I have put into place to resume worship at Crestwood.

First, on May 4th I reopened the offices to our staff, both support and ministerial. The offices will continue to remain closed to visitors as long as the social distancing restrictions are in place. Once those restrictions are lifted, we will once again open for business as normal. In the meantime, the staff is answering phones and handling church business.

If you prefer to bring your tithe to the Church, envelopes are available on a table in the Family Life Center. Please fill out and place in the mail slot. For your safety and ours do not enter the offices.

If you have an emergency that cannot be handled by a phone call, please call and we will arrange to meet you at the doors of the building. Our staff will remain available to help with whatever need you may have. Thank you for helping with this.

Secondly, we plan to resume worship on May 24th. Governor Abbott will implement phase 2 of his plan on the 18th of May. Implementation of this phase is dependent on the Coronavirus infection rate decreasing and stabilizing. If it happens that the infection rate has increased by May 18th and they issue another stay at home order then we will postpone the resuming of worship for a later date.

Phase 2 will allow public gatherings to use 50% capacity of building size. At that time resuming worship at Crestwood will follow these steps.

1. We will begin with one worship service at 11 AM to be held in the activities building on the south end of campus for the following reasons.
 - a. We chose the activities building due to size. A 50% capacity would allow us to seat 400 people. The current worship center would only allow us to seat a smaller group.
 - b. We chose one worship service so as to maintain the disinfecting guidelines provided by the Governor's office. All surfaces will have to be disinfected

in between meetings to include restrooms, water fountains, door knobs, light switches, chairs, floors, etc.

2. All ushers will be trained in how to handle the arrival and departure of people from the facilities. We will ask ushers to wear masks and gloves for the safety of the people. Providing safety for all people is our priority.
 - a. Upon arrival, we will ask people to please wait at the doorway to the entrance of the building until an usher can seat them. While waiting we will ask people to practice social distancing.
 - b. There will be 6 feet between rows of chairs and at least three seats between each family unit on a row.
 - c. All people will be asked to practice social distancing while on the property. If people would like, they can wear face masks and plastic gloves. We will ask people to please respect each other. Please refrain from handshaking and hugging and maintain six feet distancing.
 - d. No childcare will be provided at this time.
 - e. Offering boxes will be placed in the foyer of the building so people can give an offering or their tithe.

No other ministries or activities will take place on campus until social distancing restrictions are removed. If a person has an underlying health problem or compromised immune system, we will ask them to please remain at home and join us by live stream until social distancing restrictions are lifted.

These are challenging times. I'm praying for you and your families. Please pray for me and the staff. We need the wisdom of God as we lead at this time. May God richly bless you and I look forward to once again gathering with you to worship the Lamb of God.

In Christ,

Pastor Jeff