

**SOUTH ELKHORN CHRISTIAN CHURCH
HEALTHY AT CHURCH TASK FORCE
REGULATIONS FOR BUILDING REOPENING**

The “Healthy at Church” Task Force has been tasked with assisting the Cabinet with making determinations regarding how to safely reopen church facilities in light of the COVID-19 pandemic. The Task Force consists of Jacob Walbourn (Chair), Senior Minister Michael Swartzentruber, Associate Minister Holly Fuqua, Dr. Stephen Furlow, Diana McKenzie, Aden Randles, and Phyl Wigglesworth. The Task Force met on May 18, May 26, June 1, and June 11, 2020. There was also feedback from the first outdoor service on June 14 that was incorporated. It is the unanimous recommendation of the Task Force that the Cabinet adopt the following policies:

1. The building shall remain closed to general in-person usage until **June 20, 2020**. The following exceptions are permitted:
 - a. Staff may enter the facility in order to discharge their job duties. Any staff so entering shall comply with the “Healthy at Work” Minimum Requirements for All Entities. These responsibilities include: completing a health self-assessment before entering the building, not entering the building if running a fever or exhibiting COVID symptoms, wearing a face mask, practicing good hygiene, disinfecting/cleaning high touch areas, and complying with all other legal mandates issued by the Commonwealth of Kentucky or Lexington-Fayette Urban County Government.
 - b. Members of the congregation may enter the facility in order to volunteer their services. Volunteers will be strongly encouraged to comply with the same standards that apply to staff in order to enter the building. Entry in to the facility should be reserved for truly emergent or time-sensitive situations for as long as the building is closed to in-person usage. Once the facility is open, volunteers shall be strongly encouraged to comply with the same requirements as applicable to staff.
2. In-person, indoor worship services are not permitted at this time. Due to the capacity constraints currently imposed by the Commonwealth of Kentucky, the Task Force has determined that it is infeasible to resume indoor, in-person worship. At such times as the legal requirements are amended, the Task Force will reevaluate whether indoor, in-person worship is feasible to resume. In-person, “drive-thru” style worship or events are permitted provided that individuals do not get out of their vehicles. Participating staff must comply with the “Healthy at Work” Minimum Requirements for All Entities.
3. The Healthy at Church Task Force shall develop and implement a training curriculum for church members to become “hygiene coordinators,” and will further provide both written and digital materials to those seeking to complete the training.
4. In-person, outdoor worship was permitted to begin under the guidelines previously adopted by the Cabinet, and is permitted. The first outdoor worship service is currently scheduled for **June 14, 2020**. Effective **June 21, 2020**, outdoor worship is subject the following conditions:

- a. All attendees will be provided access to the “Recommendations for SECC to Prevent COVID-19 for Worship Services and Other Group Meetings” adopted by the Task Force. These recommendations incorporate both legal standards and best practices, and attendees must comply with these directives.
- b. At least two (2) trained hygiene coordinators will need to be present at each outdoor worship event. More are recommended, if possible.
- c. Ushers and Greeters should also be present and familiar with the hygiene policies and requirements so as to advise members and guests of the appropriate way to safely attend any outdoor service.
- d. Staff must comply with the “Healthy at Work” Minimum Requirements for All Entities, and must complete a health self-assessment before participating. Staff will be required to wear masks at all times, except:
 - i. If they remain at least ten (10) feet from all individuals, or
 - ii. While speaking or otherwise leading the worship service.
- e. All attendees are strongly encouraged to wear masks, unless the congregation member has a medical condition that makes wearing a mask medically infeasible.
- f. At-risk groups, including those over the age of 65 or those with underlying medical conditions are advised to refrain from attending, or to take all reasonable steps to protect their health (including attending but staying in their personal vehicle, e.g.). The worship team will take reasonable steps, including internet broadcasts, to ensure these members are able to participate in worship services safely.
- g. Social distancing will be required, and all family groups should remain at least six (6) feet away from other family groups. The worship team will attempt to provide physical indications in the outdoor setting to assist with social distancing (i.e., marking locations on the grass, providing markings to indicate how people should move, etc.). Physical contact is strongly discouraged, and members should refrain from shaking hands, holding hands, hugging, or otherwise coming in to contact with individuals not in their immediate family group.
- h. Members are encouraged to bring all physical items (communion elements, chairs, blankets, masks, etc.) from home. For those individuals who do not have such materials or forget to bring them, these may be provided to them; however, anyone handling or distributing such materials should ensure safety by sanitizing their hands prior to distribution, and should not touch their face or nose while engaged in distribution activities. Any items returned after use (i.e., chairs) should be disinfected immediately after use. The determination as to whether to provide these materials shall be in the sole discretion of the Worship Team.
- i. A digital version of the weekly bulletin shall be made available to those who would wish to access it. Physical bulletins may still be provided upon request; however, those distributing such bulletins must sanitize their hands prior to distribution, and should refrain from touching their face and be masked while distributing any physical bulletins. The determination as to whether to provide physical bulletins shall be in the sole discretion of the Worship Team.
- j. The Worship Team should assure that hand sanitizer is available for all congregants. At least two (2) sanitizer stations shall be set up to serve the congregation. Members are requested to bring their own sanitizer from home.

- k. The building will be closed during such outdoor worship services, and restroom facilities will be available only on an emergency basis. In the event a restroom must be used due to an emergency, a hygiene coordinator must ensure that it is cleaned after use. This includes, but is not limited to, disinfecting the toilet seat, flushing mechanism, faucet, and doorknobs/door pulls. Only one person will be permitted to use the restroom at a time.
 - l. Refreshments are not to be provided.
 - m. Only staff, hygiene coordinators, and those specifically permitted by staff and/or hygiene coordinators will be permitted to enter the building.
5. Use of the facility by small groups affiliated with the church may begin on **June 20, 2020**.
- a. Groups meeting outdoors shall be limited to fifty (50) total participants or fewer, and shall comply with the same requirements as those applicable to outdoor worship services, except that the number of hygiene coordinators required shall be one (1) for each twenty-five (25) group participants.
 - b. Groups meeting indoors shall be limited to twenty-five (25) total participants or fewer.
 - c. Groups with at-risk members are strongly encouraged to continue participation through digital or other remote means.
 - d. All groups using the facility will need to comply with the “Recommendations for SECC to Prevent COVID-19 for Worship Services and Other Group Meetings.” This will include:
 - i. Provision of at least one (1) hygiene coordinator for groups of ten (10) or fewer, and provision of at least two (2) hygiene coordinators for groups larger than ten.
 - ii. All other safety measures – hygiene, social distancing, and recommended mask usage.
 - e. Groups will need to request use of the facility through the Church’s administrator at least one (1) week prior to the date of the requested use. The group will need to supply the date, time, expected attendance, and identify the hygiene coordinator(s) who will be responsible for the group event.
 - f. A maximum of two (2) group events per day is permitted, provided that:
 - i. The end of the first-occurring event is at least one (1) hour prior to the start of the second-occurring event.
 - ii. The groups do not use the same area of the building (i.e., if the historic side is used for the first event, the second event must occur on the CMC-side of the building).
 - g. If there have not been at least three (3) full days between scheduled events, the areas of the facility to be used must be thoroughly cleaned and disinfected prior to use. This will be the responsibility of the group leader in consultation with the hygiene coordinator(s).
 - h. Restrooms are generally closed, and may only be used in the event of an emergency. If restroom facilities are to be used, they must be cleaned after each use.
 - i. Refreshments shall not be provided.
 - j. Failure to comply with these Requirements may be grounds to prohibit future use of the facility by the offending group.

6. Church members or individuals who wish to enter the facility to meet or convene with a staff member:
 - a. Shall be limited to a one-on-one meeting with the staff member unless pre-cleared with the staff member in advance.
 - b. Shall schedule the meeting in advance if at all practicable. Drop-in meetings are strongly discouraged.
 - c. Shall wear a mask when meeting with the staff member.
 - d. Shall maintain social distance.
7. Guidelines for Little Elks will be established on or before **July 15, 2020**. These guidelines will comport with the guidelines issued by the Commonwealth of Kentucky.
8. External groups, not affiliated with SECC, are currently not permitted to use the facility. The Task Force will re-examine this prohibition on or before **July 15, 2020**.
9. These Guidelines shall remain in effect until amended or repealed. It is the intent of the Task Force to supply an updated recommendation and set of guidelines to the Cabinet for their **July** meeting.