

Resuming In-Person Worship Services

Broadway United Methodist Church

Target Date for Reopening Sanctuary Worship: Sunday, September 20, 10:30 am
We will continue to offer online worship through a taped service and/or live streaming.

Exclusions to this plan

- Sunday School classes and other adult small group meetings, Broadway's Hispanic services, Kid's Club, Youth meetings, and other children/youth gatherings will not be offered in person at this time.
- Those in the vulnerable category of 65 and older and those who live with and/or care for persons who fit into that category will be encouraged to remain home and take advantage of online worship.
- Those who have significant high-risk conditions will be encouraged to remain at home.
- Those who are experiencing coronavirus symptoms or have a positive diagnosis with COVID-19 will be told to stay home.

Masks and Social Distancing

- Face masks will be worn by all participants while in church and while entering and exiting the buildings. Participants are encouraged to bring their own masks. Face coverings need not be placed on children under the age of two, anyone who has trouble breathing, or anyone who is unable to remove the mask without assistance (these persons should remain home at this time).
- We will enforce the requirement to wear masks at all times (while entering, during services, and while exiting) and to maintain a minimum 6 -foot distancing while attending services. We will not permit entry to anyone without a mask.

Entry and Exit

- Sanctuary: Enter and exit through one door on the Broadway Avenue side of the building.
Chapel: The chapel entrance on Patton Street will be open to accommodate disabled attendees and others needing use of the ramp.
- There will be clearly identified paths of entry/exit. The sidewalks outside both the sanctuary and chapel entrances will be marked at 6' intervals for those waiting to enter the church.
- All other entrances will be locked but will open from the inside in case of emergency.
- Greeters and signage will assist those attending.
- Ushers will seat each individual/family. Please wait at the entrance to the sanctuary to be seated.
- At the conclusion of services, the congregation will be dismissed by rows to prevent overcrowding at the exit.

Seating

- Seating in the sanctuary and chapel will be restricted to every other pew. Alternate pews will be marked off to ensure social distancing. Reservations will be necessary for each service. For more information about reservations see **Accountability** below.
- Families who live in the same household will sit together. Children will remain with their families while the children's message is being delivered. A 6-foot distance will be maintained between each family/household group.

Accountability

Reservations and Tracking Information

- We will use Save A Seat software program from The Pastor's Toolbox, Inc. to make reservations for each service. This will allow us to get contact information for those attending and will provide an attendance account. Each week in the Broadway Briefs, there will be a reservation section to make reservations online. Reservations can also be made by calling the church office no later than noon on FRIDAY of each week.

Tracking in case of COVID-19 exposure

- If someone in attendance tests positive for COVID-19, we will notify the impacted congregation.

Worship Service

- Passing the Peace/Greeting Times will be suspended until further notice.
- Offering containers will be available to accept offerings upon entry to/exit from the sanctuary. Members are encouraged to continue using online giving and U.S. mail for offerings.
- Printed materials: All Bibles, hymnals, other paper products and writing utensils have been removed from the sanctuary. Congregants may bring their own Bibles.
- Music
- Choirs will be suspended until further notice. We may use soloists or small groupings, but only with extended social distancing beyond 6 ft.
- Praise bands will be kept to the barest minimum participants and only with extended social distancing beyond 6 ft.
- Congregational singing will not be conducted until further notice. If hymns are used, they will be spoken and/or sung by music leader(s) at least 18 feet from the nearest congregant.
- Receiving lines to greet persons exiting the sanctuary will be suspended until further notice.
- Holy Communion through intinction or with the use of individual cups/bread will not be administered in person until the threat of transmission is minimized. We will offer pre-packaged, self-service communion cups.
- Baptisms will be delayed until the restrictions are lifted to ensure safety of the families and the person being baptized. *However, if necessary, they must be approved in advance in consultation with the District Superintendent.*
- Altar calls and the "laying on of hands" will be suspended until further notice.