



Christ Episcopal Church

Service · Faith · Community · Inclusion

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Plan for In-person Gatherings at Christ Church Anacortes During the Coronavirus Pandemic

Updated 11/18/2020

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The Plan

The Parish Hall is subject to a separate plan on file with the Office of the Bishop, and is currently being used by a learning pod and essential personnel, only. Essential personnel use an email 'well-ness tracker' which gives notice of date and time when a particular person plans to be in the building; each essential personnel is charged with checking the tracker, and entering only when no one else is present. Each sanitizes all touched surfaces upon leaving, and wears a mask when in the building.

The Red Door Thrift Shop is subject to a separate plan on file with the Office of the Bishop.

The Gentry House Adult Day Care Center remains closed to the public. The tenant, Skagit Adult Day Care, will provide a Plan when the facility re-opens, likely when Skagit County moves to Phase 3.

The Church Sanctuary

The Plan laid out below will be used by the congregation of Christ Church in the re-opening of the Sanctuary. It will also apply to the Parish Hall when it is re-opened for general use. See Appendix A for Protocols for specific services and bathroom use.

This Plan may be updated. Skagit County is presently in Phase 2.

About COVID-19

- Infection with COVID-19 can cause illness ranging from mild to severe and, in some cases, can be fatal.
- Symptoms typically include fever, sore throat, cough, shortness of breath, fatigue, muscle aches, or new loss of taste or smell.
- According to the CDC, symptoms of COVID-19 may appear in as few as 2 days or as long as 14 days after exposure.
- The virus is thought to spread mainly from person-to-person, including:
 1. Between people who are in close contact with one another (within about 6 feet).
 2. Through respiratory droplets produced when an infected person coughs or sneezes. Droplets can land in the mouths or noses of people who are nearby or possibly be inhaled into the lungs.
 3. It may be possible that a person can get COVID-19 by touching a surface or object that has the virus on it and then touching their own mouth, nose or their eyes, but this is not thought to be the primary way the virus spreads.
 4. People are thought to be most contagious when they are most symptomatic. However, there is growing evidence of transmission risk from people without symptoms or before the onset of recognized symptoms.

What Are the General COVID Control and Mitigation Requirements?

- COVID-19 signs and safety procedures will be posted inside and outside the church buildings.
- There will be a COVID Wellness Supervisor (WS) at all events. It shall be the responsibility of the WS to ensure that all persons in their gathering are following these guidelines.
- When people arrive, they will check with the WS, who will take their temperature, require them to sanitize their hands and respond to the Contact and Questionnaire Information summary. All persons must wear a facial covering.

- The WS will fill out the Contact and Questionnaire Information for each gathering; the information will be retained for a minimum of 14 days.
- All persons must maintain a social distance of six feet; wherever people may stand in line, markings will be placed to show 6ft distancing.
- WS will ask any person who refuses to comply to leave.
- If person refuses to leave, the service in progress will be ended immediately, all persons present will be asked to leave, and the building will be closed.

What is our Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) Plan?

- All persons must bring their own PPE.
- Face coverings (masks) are required at all times. There will be a limited number of extra masks available.
- Do not share or misplace face coverings.

How Will we Ensure On-location Physical Distancing?

- All persons must maintain a six foot clearance from other persons. Persons of the same family household may sit/stand next to each other
- There will be posters and obvious markers marking 6 ft distances
- The WS will direct persons on the protocol for seating and participation in worship

How Will we Ensure Appropriate Sanitation?

- Hand sanitizer will be available at entryway, and by each chair in the sanctuary
- Disinfectants will be available; all frequently touched surfaces will be sanitized after gatherings
- Tissues and trash receptacles will be available
- Soap and running water are available in the sacristy; the Parish Hall bathroom will be open for use during any gathering in the church [Note: church gatherings are not scheduled for times when the Parish Hall is in use by the learning pod]
- Safe hygiene signs will be posted
- Church buildings will be deep cleaned between services.

Symptom Monitoring and Incident Reporting if Necessary

- People are reminded to prescreen their health before arriving, and to stay at home if they have experienced any of the symptoms, have tested positive, or have a temperature of 100.4 or higher.
- Anyone who has knowingly been in close contact with someone diagnosed or tested positive with COVID 19 must self-quarantine for 2 weeks and must be symptom free before coming to Christ Church.
- Any persons experiencing symptoms or testing COVID-19 positive within two weeks of attending a gathering at Christ Church shall immediately notify the clergy or the WS. The Clergy will immediately notify the Skagit County Health Department and anyone at the gathering.

What is Our Exposure Response Procedure?

- If COVID-19 is suspected, person will be required to leave the premises. Clergy will contact the Skagit County Health Dept. and provide documentation for contact tracing to be initiated by them. The buildings will be closed for 14 days and deeply cleaned before reopening.

The Protocols

Re-opening the Christ Church Sanctuary

Protocol for Sunday 8 am Morning Prayer Service

[ZOOM service at 10:30]

Additional instructions will be provided when Holy Eucharist is offered.

- Wellness Supervisor (WS) at the front entrance screens all worshipers:
 - * takes and records no-contact temperature,
 - * asks health questions (screening questionnaire, attachment 1)
 - * confirms contact information (Contact and Questionnaire information, attachment 2).
 - * WS wears mask, and stands behind small table with plexiglass barrier in narthex.
- Attendees list and contact information retained for two weeks after each service
- All persons wear masks at all times: worshipers, readers, presider/preacher, WS. Bring your own! A few extra masks will be available for emergency use.
- Hand sanitizer must be used at entry, and will be placed by each chair.
- Sanctuary is cleared of pews; chairs placed at 6ft radial distance.
- Family groups living in the same household may request chairs together, in advance. Requests made to Church Administrator. If no advance request is made, they will be seated separately. "Living in same household" does not include family or guests in the household less than 14 days before the service.
- Maximum sanctuary capacity: 24 individuals (includes presider, readers, musician and WS)
- outside doors to the sanctuary and sacristy remain open for better air circulation

Service Instructions

- Service bulletins provided electronically in advance; bring your own! No handouts. Bring your own Prayer Book
- Worshipers fill the church front to back; those in the back exit first and maintain social distance of 6 feet at all times
- Presider/preacher and readers will enter and exit from sacristy
- Please respect and love your neighbor, COVID-style. Maintain a six foot distance when speaking to one another before or after the service – in the sanctuary or outside; no handshakes or hugs, please!
- No singing.
- If you become ill during a service or after, notify the WS and/or clergy.

Protocol for 'Open Church' Worship Wednesdays 10:00 am to 12 Noon

- All persons must wear masks at all times.
- Hand sanitizer must be used entry; additional sanitizer by each chair.
- Sanctuary cleared of pews; chairs placed at 6 ft radius for social distance.

- Family groups living in the same household may request chairs together, in advance. If no advance request is made, they will be seated separately. “Living in same household” does not include family or guests in the household less than 14 days before the service.
- No more than 5 persons in the church at one time: WS will ring singing bowl if church is full and someone is waiting to come in; persons in sanctuary are asked to leave so others may enter
- outside doors to the sanctuary and sacristy remain open for better air circulation
- bring your own Book of Common Prayer and/or Bible for personal worship
- avoid touching surfaces
- enter and leave quietly
- While waiting to enter, maintain social distancing; you may wait in your car until the WS waves you in
- Please respect and love your neighbor, COVID-style. Maintain a six foot distance when speaking to one another before or after the service – in the sanctuary or outside; no handshakes or hugs, please!

Protocol for Restroom Use

- Restroom is located in Parish Hall; enter through door at the top of the ramp.
- Restroom is single person use only; signage with protocol for wiping restroom prior to leaving will be posted and cleaning materials provided.
- Masks must be worn at all times.
- Avoid touching surfaces unnecessarily, and wipe light switch, faucets, toilet and door handles when leaving: cleaning wipes in bathroom, waste disposal basket by exit.
- Maintain 6 feet distance while waiting outside on ramp if restroom is in use.
- Do not enter Gathering Room or kitchen. These areas are reserved for the exclusive use of our school learning pod. The learning pod is not in session during church services; the area has been sanitized for their next use.

Protocol for Holy Eucharist & Baptism

- All elements of Protocols for Sunday 8 am Morning Prayer and Restroom use must be followed.
- The Protocol for Holy Eucharist as set forth by the Bishop of Olympia will be followed.
- The Protocol for Baptism as set forth by the Bishop of Olympia will be followed.

Protocol for Gathering Outside

- The protocols for 8 am worship and rest room use apply.

