



*Emsworth Presbyterian Church
73 Hiland Ave
Emsworth, PA 15202*

*St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church
801 Beaver St.
Sewickley, PA 15143*

October 5, 2020

Friends,

In May, we sent out a plan for moving toward reopening the church buildings as the world begins to slowly creep out of lockdown and quarantine. On July 10, we moved to the yellow phase of our reopening and began holding outdoor worship services in August. On October 4th, we tested out our live streaming system by holding a virtual hymn sing. On October 10th, we will have another outdoor service at St. Andrew's at 6pm.

In processing all of the information that is available for our area and weighing the safety of different methods of getting back to a more normal feeling Sunday service, we have made some changes that will begin at the end of October.

On Sunday, October 25th, we will begin live streaming Sunday services from the sanctuary in Emsworth. You will access the livestream through the same youtube channel link you use on your computer, mobile device, or smart tv. The only thing that changes for you watching at home is that the majority of the service is live from the sanctuary, not pre-recorded.

The choice to livestream from the sanctuary in Emsworth is purely logistical. In addition to the organ at St. Andrew's being non-functional at this time, the sanctuary at Emsworth is far more conducive for recording services, due to acoustics (audio quality), lighting, and size of the space. There is a possibility of doing some special services in the sanctuary at St. Andrew's, but on a weekly basis, the service will stream from Emsworth.

You will see in the phased reopening plan below that we have made one notable change to the reopening guidelines: the increase in allowed number of leadership for live streamed services. This may seem like a small change, but it's an important one. In addition to the staff, tech assistant, and lay leaders, there will be two other leadership positions included in these services. We know that while many of you are still hunkered down and uncomfortable with crowds, others are on the fence, and still others are chomping at the bit to get back into the sanctuary. We are adding some leadership opportunities during our "yellow phase" for those who are ready to get a taste of in person worship and we're making sure that there are opportunities for those of all gifts and talents.

One household may share the duties of a volunteer position. For example: Barb and Don could serve jointly as the St. Andrew's prayer representative, John and Michelle could run tech together, or Erin and Dan could tag-team lay reading. We do request that two members of one household do not sign up for separate jobs on any given week, so as to open up as many opportunities as possible. These positions will be available to sign up for on a week to week basis so the greatest number of people are able to rotate through. You can sign up one of two ways: online at

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/70a0e48a8af2ca1fe3-worship> or by calling or texting Pastor Charissa at 412.908.2778. You must sign up ahead of time to attend.

Worship leadership opportunities during the red phase will be limited to 2-3 staff (pastor, music director, and student intern if applicable) and 2 volunteers (lay leader and tech support).

Worship leadership opportunities during the yellow phase will include:

- 2-4 Staff members
 - Pastor
 - Music director
 - Custodian (or volunteer fill-in)
 - Student intern, if applicable
- 4 Volunteer opportunities
 - Lay reader
 - Tech support - those interested in training for this should contact Pastor Charissa ASAP.
 - St. Andrew's Prayer representative (Only duty is to show up to the service at 9:45 and be prayerful during the service.)
 - Emsworth Prayer representative. (see above)

Volunteers and staff will be required to wear masks at all times (except when speaking on camera), remain more than 6 feet apart at all times, and have their temperature taken via thermal forehead thermometer before entering the building. Those running a fever will be asked to go home immediately.

Please call if you have any questions or if you would like to sign up to be on the leadership team for an upcoming Sunday.

Stay safe and healthy, friends.

Blessings,



Rev. Charissa Howe
Leslie Linko, SAUPC
Caretaker
Paul Zende, EUPC Caretaker

Sue Schneider
Nancy Mehalic
Bez Stellfox
Marti Smart
Clyde Williams
Janet Shaffer
John Scanlon
Emsworth Session 2020

Martha Markivich
Jimmie Nicolazzo
Brian Henry
Lori Wade
Eileen Kearcher
Elsie Knappenberger

St. Andrew's Session 2020

RED PHASE

1. Buildings closed to all but staff. Staff may still work drop-in hours for basic administrative and maintenance tasks and recording worship as needed.
 - a. Recommended no more than 2 staff members in building at a time, except for during worship. Staff must remain at least 6 feet apart and wear masks when occupying the same room.
 - b. May have up to 5 staff/leaders in building for recording/streaming worship if masks are worn, except by those actively leading worship for a livestream or recording.
 - c. Any work that can be done from home must be done from home.
2. Online only for worship, bible study, fellowship, and meetings.

YELLOW PHASE

1. Buildings closed for public worship.
2. Staff may still work drop-in hours for basic administrative and maintenance tasks and recording or livestream of worship as needed.
 - a. May have up to 15 staff/leaders in building for recording worship if masks are worn, except by those actively leading worship for a livestream or recording.
 - b. Work from home when possible.
3. Option for outdoor worship with social distancing protocol and bring your own chair. There will be no corporate singing at these services. Family groups will sit at least 6 feet apart. Masks are suggested and will be available for those who don't have one with them.
 - a. Offering plates for each church will be available to leave donations in.
4. Online only for all other worship, bible study, fellowship, and meetings.
5. Emergency/necessary meetings of no more than 10 people may be held in person, but it is strongly recommended that they are conducted online.
6. Funerals may be considered by the session, based on current situation, on a case by case basis.
7. One on one technology access instruction may occur in the church building or at member's home if masks are worn and devices are disinfected both before and after instruction.
8. Persons exhibiting any signs of illness (cough, fever, etc) or who may have been exposed to Covid-19 are asked to stay home. It is strongly urged that individuals take their temperature before leaving their home and practice self- isolating if they are running a fever of over 100°f.
9. Attendance will be taken at all events so that, in the case of another member with confirmed Covid-19, we are able to contact all those present and notify them of the need to self quarantine. Church will adhere to "red phase" standards for two weeks following such a scenario.

GREEN PHASE

1. Public Sunday morning worship may resume, but with precautions such as:

- a. No corporate singing
 - i. Organ music, piano music, stringed or percussion music (eg: instruments that don't rely on human breathing to operate), music videos, and prerecorded music will be incorporated into the service instead.
 - b. Masks must be worn at all times during all group gatherings and will be provided for those who do not have one.
 - c. Family groups/households seated at least 6 feet apart.
 - d. No handshakes, hugs, or other physical contact between persons from separate households.
 - e. Offering plates will not be passed. They will be stationary at the front or back of the sanctuary. Only those counting the offering will handle the plates or the offerings. Online giving will still be strongly encouraged for all.
 - f. Communion will be served via pre-packaged elements congregants will pick up at the beginning of the service and dispose of themselves at the end of the service to limit contact and keep the staff safe.
 - g. Buildings must be thoroughly disinfected between use according to health regulations and guidelines, as well as insurance considerations.
 - h. There will be no close-contact Sunday school for children. A children's sermon/moment will be included in the service instead.
 - i. Observing any state, county, or federally mandated person limits
 - j. Live-streaming of worship will continue in addition to in person worship.
 - k. Only one worship leader will use any one microphone during the service. All microphones will be disinfected after use.
 - l. No activities involving food.
2. Unnecessary sections of buildings will be blocked off and marked "staff only." All non-staff persons will be asked to remain in the open portions of the building in order to keep to a minimum the areas that must be disinfected after gatherings.
 3. In person Bible Study and committee meetings may resume with caution.
 - a. Online options for bible study and committee meetings will also be available.
 4. Persons exhibiting any signs of illness (cough, fever, etc) or who may have been exposed to Covid-19 are asked to stay home. It is strongly urged that individuals take their temperature before leaving their home and practice self-isolating if they are running a fever of over 100°f.
 5. Attendance will be taken at all events so that, in the case of another member with confirmed Covid-19, we are able to contact all those present and notify them of the need to self quarantine. Church will adhere to "red phase" standards for two weeks following such a scenario.