

Good Afternoon, All!

The Church Board approved re-opening the church for this Sabbath service, May 30, 2020.

I would like to welcome all who wish to participate in a "live" service this coming sabbath. If you're not comfortable you'll be missed, but we understand.

We'll ask at this time for all elderly and infirmed congregants to please use prayerful consideration in this decision. I personally am looking forward to a church service in the church and seeing those of you that are willing to come.

Below are the guidelines we'll use for attendance. These guidelines will follow the Conference and NC State Guidelines as best as possible.

We must remember that the Conference owns our buildings and land and the Conference, being a corporate structure has different responsibilities than we do.

That said, I am looking forward to this High Sabbath.

Thank you all for your patience and prayers,
Ted Coles

Tryon S.D.A. Church Re-Opening Guidelines

Due to the Coronavirus spread, these are the guidelines for re-opening of the Tryon S.D.A. Church for services starting on May 30, 2020. We adopted these guidelines on Monday, May 25 at a 7 p.m. Zoom Church Board meeting.

1. All attendees will have their temperature checked just outside the front door. Anyone with a fever will be asked to leave.
2. All attendees will be asked to answer 2 questions about previous possible coronavirus exposure and sign a release taking personal responsibility for being at the church service, accepting knowledge of the risk involved. The head of household may sign for the family.
3. Social distancing guidelines will be observed when in the building.
4. Occupancy rating according to 6 foot social distancing is as follows: 75 people seated in the Sanctuary and 15 - 18 people seated in the Balcony; For a total of 93 people – this is 1/3 of our occupancy rating. We could use the Morgan Center for overflow, if needed.
5. The door handles and all frequently touched surfaces will be cleaned prior to the service, at least once during the service, and after the service – this includes the bathrooms.
6. Signage will be placed at the facility encouraging the following: Please observe social distancing. Do not enter if you are sick or not feeling well. Please use hand sanitizer. Please refrain from handshakes and hugging. Remember Coronavirus is still here. Enter and Exit signs. "Please wash your hands" signs in the bathrooms.
7. The front doors will be used for entry and the side doors for exit. The Foyer will be roped off for one way in and one way out.
8. The hymnals will be removed from the back of the pews and songs service will be on the TV screens or in one-time use handouts set at the pews prior to the service.
9. There will be a "collection" box in the Foyer to drop tithe envelops and offerings upon entering the service. There will be NO passing of the collection plate during the service.
10. We will not have mandatory face mask usage, but they will be available upon entry if you feel the need to wear one.
11. There will be hand sanitizer placed around the building for use during the services.

12. There will be weekly verbal messages from the platform about proper safe actions to take and information on any changes that may come.
13. The church will be aired out between services on a regular basis.
14. The water fountain will be turned off and be covered for the foreseeable future.
15. Zoom services will continue with separate classes for Sabbath School as needed.
16. Elderly and High-risk congregants will be asked to consider not returning at this time.
17. ***Because we have resumed “live” services it does NOT mean everybody MUST or should attend the live services, you may feel uncomfortable or choose not to come.*** This is a personal decision and should be made by the individual and NOT influenced by anyone else. This is a very serious decision that should be prayerfully considered, if you are COMFORTABLE, then please, by all means, come, if you're ***NOT*** comfortable, please, by all means join us via Zoom as we have been doing for several weeks now.

This virus is real, and it does kill the elderly and infirmed with an alarming rate, as with any serious flu season these people should be cautious about crowded areas and remaining safe.

Ted Coles
Head Elder
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