

RBC's Reopening Plan

As of: 8/6/20

RBC is employing a progressive restart of in-person activities at the church by phases.

The officers are using the following principles to guide the reopening of activities at the church.

1. Priority to protecting the health of the church body, as we seek ways to continue to serve their spiritual, emotional, and physical needs.
2. Apply a cautious and measured approach informed by official guidance.
3. Provide a witness in the community as an example of showing care and concern for our church body and the community.

Our overarching goal as we reopen is to ensure the protection of each other's health as we gather again in-person. The attainment of that goal is a shared responsibility that will be achieved by our actions as individuals and as a church body when we come together. Those actions will be a true display of our love, patience, and kindness in caring for each other. It will also be through extending grace towards each other that we can submit to the guidelines established to make all in our church body feel safe as we return to worshipping together in-person, perhaps despite our own personal views.

Phase 1 of the reopening plan – starts June 14; through the end of the month of July.

1. Planned in-person activities at the church:
Worship service only (the building will open for general admission at 10:15; the service will start at 10:45 am)
 - The service will be a modified format with time for playing of music, announcements, prayer, and a message. The service will not include any singing.
 - We will continue to livestream the service on Facebook.
2. In-person activities to remain cancelled at the church on Sunday:
 - a. Sunday school
 - b. Nursery
3. Modifications to "normal" activities at the church on Sunday
 - a. No coffee service.
 - b. No praise team.
 - c. Will not serve communion.
 - d. There will be fewer rows of chairs in the auditorium and the rows will be spaced further apart (providing about four feet between individuals seated in each row).
 - e. No greeters. We will not provide or hand out bulletins.
 - f. The water fountain will not be available for use.
4. Guidelines for attendance
 - a. Health cautions
 - 1) Use your wisdom in choosing to come to the in-person service. Each family should do what is best for them. If you are not comfortable with the precautions we are taking at the church, the family is encouraged to stay home and participate in the worship service on-line.
 - 2) If any member of the family has had a fever in the past 72 hours, we ask the entire family to stay home and participate in the worship service on-line.

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- 3) If any member of the family has had the flu or flu-like symptoms within 7 days of the service, we ask the entire family to stay home and participate in the worship service on-line.
- 4) If you have other health issues that might put you more at risk if you contract the virus, you are encouraged to stay home and participate in the worship service on-line.
- b. Wear of masks. Note: worn primarily to protect against transmission to others.
 - 1) All individuals are asked to wear a mask when moving around in the church building, especially during entering and exiting, except for children two or under.
 - 2) Once seated in the auditorium, it is the choice of the family to continue wearing the mask or remove it.
- c. Seating in auditorium
 - 1) All rows of seats will be available for seating.
 - 2) Only family units may sit adjacent to each other in the same row.
 - 3) Separate family units seated in the same row must leave at least one seat unoccupied between them.
- d. Physical interaction
 - 1) All individuals are asked to refrain from handshakes or hugs with others while in the building.
 - 2) Please respect the social distancing requests of others.
- e. Children
 - 1) Parents are asked to keep their children with them.
 - 2) Mothers with infants may use the nursery room as needed.
- f. Health practices
 - 1) Everyone is asked to thoroughly wash hands before leaving the rest room. Use of soap and water is the best personal sanitizer.
 - 2) Hand sanitizer will be available for individual use throughout the building.
 - 3) We will not be sanitizing high touch areas during the service.
- g. Hallways and foyer
 - 1) Everyone is asked not to congregate in the hallways and foyer.
 - 2) Attempt to maintain some social distance between family units when moving through the hallways.
 - 3) Upon entry, please move directly to the auditorium and find your seats.
- h. Fellowship and exiting
 - 1) Upon completion of the service, we will provide instructions for exiting the auditorium by section.
 - 2) We encourage prompt departure from the building after completion of the service and the use of social distancing when fellowshiping in the parking lot.
 - 3) Everyone is discouraged from fellowshiping in the building after the service.

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5. Reporting.

If during the week after you have attended a service at RBC you are diagnosed with COVID-19, you must notify us immediately at rbclewisburg@gmail.com so appropriate action can be taken.

Phase 2 of the reopening plan – starts August 16; estimated end of phase is to be determined. **Changes to Phase 1 guidelines are highlighted in bold.**

1. Planned in-person activities at the church:

Worship service only (the building will open for general admission at 10:15; the service will start at 10:45 am)

- The service will be a modified format with time for playing of music, announcements, prayer, a message, **and corporate singing.**
- **The service will include corporate singing at the end of the service without the wearing of face masks. For those that do not feel safe staying in the auditorium during the singing without masks, an opportunity will be provided to leave the auditorium before the singing starts. The fellowship hall will be available to those that wish to remain to listen to the singing or sing while wearing a face mask and maintaining social distancing.**
- We will continue to livestream the service on Facebook.
- **We will serve communion on the first Sunday of the month with additional precautions in place during the serving of the elements to those in attendance, such as use of prefilled and self-contained communion cups with wafer and juice.**

2. In-person activities to remain cancelled at the church on Sunday:

- a. Sunday school
- b. Nursery

3. Modifications to “normal” activities at the church on Sunday

- a. No coffee service.
- b. There will be fewer rows of chairs in the auditorium and the rows will be spaced further apart (providing about four feet between individuals seated in each row).
- c. No greeters. We will not provide or hand out bulletins.
- d. The water fountain will not be available for use.

4. Guidelines for attendance

a. Health cautions

- 1) Use your wisdom in choosing to come to the in-person service. Each family should do what is best for them. If you are not comfortable with the precautions we are taking at the church, the family is encouraged to stay home and participate in the worship service on-line.
- 2) If any member of the family has had a fever in the past 72 hours, we ask the entire family to stay home and participate in the worship service on-line.
- 3) If any member of the family has had the flu or flu-like symptoms within 7 days of the service, we ask the entire family to stay home and participate in the worship service on-line.

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- 4) If you have other health issues that might put you more at risk if you contract the virus, you are encouraged to stay home and participate in the worship service on-line.
- b. Wear of masks. Note: worn primarily to protect against transmission to others.
 - 1) All individuals are asked to wear a mask when moving around in the church building, especially during entering and exiting, except for children two or under.
 - 2) Once seated in the auditorium, it is the choice of the family to continue wearing the mask or remove it.
- c. Seating in auditorium
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 - 1) Everyone is asked to thoroughly wash hands before leaving the rest room. Use of soap and water is the best personal sanitizer.
 - 2) Hand sanitizer will be available for individual use throughout the building.
 - 3) We will not be sanitizing high touch areas during the service.
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 - 1) Everyone is asked not to congregate in the hallways and foyer.
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- h. Fellowship and exiting
 - 1) Upon completion of the service, we will provide instructions for exiting the auditorium by section.
 - 2) We encourage prompt departure from the building after completion of the service and the use of social distancing when fellowshiping in the parking lot.
 - 3) Everyone is discouraged from fellowshiping in the building after the service.
5. Reporting.

If during the week after you have attended a service at RBC you are diagnosed with COVID-19, you must notify us immediately at rbclewisburg@gmail.com so appropriate action can be taken.
6. **Prayer meeting by Zoom. We will conduct a prayer meeting by Zoom every Tuesday evening at 7:00 pm to stay connected and share praises and prayers.**

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7. **Growth groups.**
 - a. **Growth groups are encouraged to meet regularly (typically at least twice per month) in a way that most or all in the group feel safe, including in-person meetings and/or by virtual means (such as Zoom). The growth group is encouraged to utilize appropriate safety precautions (wear of masks, distancing, limiting physical contact) during in-person meetings dependent on the meeting situation, such as number of separate individuals/families gathering, meeting indoors or outdoors, size of the room when meeting indoors. Regardless of precautions in place for an in-person meeting, all are encouraged to listen to and respect the safety concerns of others in attendance.**
 - b. **The health cautions (item 4.a.) and reporting guidelines (item 5) apply to these meetings as well.**
8. **Special studies (Ladies morning and/or evening study, Men's prayer breakfast, Men's Romans Study).**
 - a. **Special studies are encouraged to meet regularly in a way that most or all in the group feel safe, including in-person meetings and/or by virtual means (such as Zoom). The group is encouraged to utilize appropriate safety precautions (wear of masks, distancing, limiting physical contact) during in-person meetings dependent on the meeting situation, such as number of separate individuals/families gathering, meeting indoors or outdoors, size of the room when meeting indoors. Regardless of precautions in place for an in-person meeting, all are encouraged to listen to and respect the safety concerns of others in attendance.**
 - b. **The health cautions (item 4.a.) and reporting guidelines (item 5) apply to these meetings as well.**

Phase 3 or more of the reopening plan – to be determined.