

## **Park Hill Christian Church, Disciples of Christ Worship Reopening Plan**

**PURPOSE:** The goal of the worship reopening plan is for all who wish to return to worshipping in person in the PHCC sanctuary to do so in a manner that ensures their personal safety and the safety of others while the COVID-19 pandemic continues.

**THEOLOGICAL GROUNDING:** The second greatest commandment (Matthew 22:39) is for Christians to love their neighbors as they do themselves, so ensuring the safety and health of others remains at the core of who we are as Christians. Christians are urged to follow Christ's example of sacrificing his own comfort for the benefit of others (Philippians 2:1-11). Christians are urged to limit their own freedom to benefit others (1 Corinthians 10:23-33). Christ teaches loving care for the most vulnerable ("at risk") in society (Matthew 25:31-46).

### **"AT RISK" PEOPLE:**

- The elderly (CDC states the at risk group is people 65+ years)
- Those with auto-immune challenges
- Those with underlying health conditions (asthma, lung issues, etc.)
- Persons of color
- Those with no health insurance
- Low-income people

#### **1. Social Distancing** (goal is 6 feet of distance between people)

Stickers will be placed on pews indicating where individuals, couples or families may sit.

#### **2. Masks will be worn by everyone present**

If someone does not have a mask, masks will be provided. When people are leading worship, such as elders praying at communion, vocalists singing, or the minister preaching, they will not wear masks, but when they are not doing these tasks, masks will be worn.

#### **3. Limiting Surface Contact**

No bulletins will be used. Bibles and hymnals have been removed from pew racks. Envelopes, pens, pencils and art table art supplies have all been removed from the sanctuary.

#### **4. Singing**

Congregants are asked not to sing during the worship service. Research studies have shown that singing sends droplets from the mouth twice as far as talking. Masks do not prevent the spread of water droplets from the mouth when a person sings.

#### **5. Communion**

Single-use communion kits containing juice and wafer will be placed at each spot marked for people to sit. No plates will be passed for communion and no one will go up to the

altar to receive the elements. Congregants may bring their own communion elements from home but should not share them beyond their family unit.

#### **6. Offering**

An offering plate will be placed at the entrance to the sanctuary to receive offerings. Church members are reminded to make use of online giving options.

#### **7. Hand Sanitizers**

Hand sanitizers will be made available at the entrance to the sanctuary.

#### **8. Dismissal**

Congregants will be dismissed by section and asked to remain six feet from congregants outside their family unit. Congregants will be asked not to linger in narthex but may talk outside the building where they can keep a six feet distance from one another.

#### **9. Nursery and Sunday School**

For the foreseeable future, the nursery will not be open and Sunday School will not be held in person