

St. John's Christian Church
Archbold, Ohio
July 16, 2020

Resumption of Ministry Plans – For August 1st Implementation

1. In light of the fact that the pandemic is not over, continued caution will be observed as we resume our in-person ministries.
2. Since resuming in-person worship on May 31st, SJCC has had 7 Sundays of worship in the sanctuary, and there is no awareness of any Covid-19 positive cases.
3. SJCC will continue to practice recommended safety protocols as realistically as feasible, including:
 - a. Encouraging everyone to practice good hygiene (washing hands, covering coughs/sneezes)
 - b. Encouraging everyone to take temperatures before arriving at church, and if their temperature is 100 degrees or higher, asking that they stay in their residence
 - c. Asking a person who is sick or not feeling well, or lives with or cares for someone who is sick or not feeling well, to stay in their residence until feeling well.
 - d. We recommend the wearing of a face covering, leaving it to be each person's decision.
 - e. We recommend the wearing of a face covering when in close proximity to others.
4. SJCC acknowledges that some level of risk will always be present when people occupy our church facilities or are engaged in church ministries that meet elsewhere.
5. SJCC recognizes that the spiritual health of a person is as important as a person's physical health, and SJCC desires to preach and teach the Gospel with renewed inspiration.
6. We trust people to be wise in making their own decisions regarding their physical presence for in-person worship and/or participation in any of the ministries of SJCC.
7. Based on current protocols from the State of Ohio, it is recommended that SJCC operate on the following schedule:
 - a. August 2nd – ropes will be re-worked in the sanctuary pews so that every other pew will be available for seating. People will be directed to stagger their seating, so that they are not sitting directly behind someone in the nearest available pew in front of them. People will be directed to maintain a 6' social distance in the pews unless all people in one pew are in agreement to sit together. We will continue to have children remain in the pews for the children's messages.

People may enter and exit with no specific direction of traffic flow, other than practicing recommended social distancing.

We will continue to live stream the 10:30am service. We are exploring live streaming on a platform other than Facebook.

- b. August 2nd – we will begin to use paper bulletins on Sunday mornings, and we will continue to project liturgy and lyrics on the screen for people who choose not to use a bulletin.

- c. August 2nd – pew Bible and hymnals will be returned to the pews for use
 - d. August 2nd – sanitization of the sanctuary, hallways and restrooms will occur between services as needed.
 - e. August 2nd – exterior doors will no longer be propped open once the heat of the day dictates their closure; and this will be reassessed as we progress through the summer towards the fall of the year.
 - f. August 2nd – offering plates will remain at the entrance doors of the sanctuary, and entrance doors will remain propped open until after the service begins, at which time they will be closed, and then reopened during the closing song.
 - g. August 3rd – in addition to unlocking the east accessible entrance each day, we will resume to unlocking the carport entrance and the south porch entrance on a daily basis.
 - h. August 3rd – in-person pastoral visits will resume per individual preferences or per facility protocols for care facility residents. (The pastors have made some in-person pastoral visits over the course of the past few months, based on serious level of health situations.)
 - i. August 16th – we will observe Rally Sunday and welcome all age levels back for Sunday school, and Small Groups may resume in-person gatherings. Resuming Sunday school is dependent upon availability of teachers. We recognize that available class spaces may not enable social distancing for our adult classes, and we will leave it to each class to decide if and how they want to meet.
 - j. August 16th – we will reopen use of the mother’s room. We will reopen use of the nursery, and for the 10:30am service it may not be staffed with volunteers depending upon the willingness of individuals to return and care for children during the pandemic.
 - k. We will resume services of Baptism and Dedication as they are scheduled.
 - l. September 9th or 16th – we will resume our Wednesday evening ministries, with specific protocols in place for the Logos Family Time meal, while remaining open to the guidance and experience of what our local schools experience as the school year resumes in August.
8. The resumption of the following August/September ministries remains under consideration:
- a. Chancel Choir – past participants will be surveyed regarding their preferences
 - b. Annual Chicken Barbeque – will be held on September 27th with socially distant seating available in the parish hall, or outside in the east lawn, or via carry out.
 - c. TGRM Chapel and Meal Ministry
 - d. Third Thursday Luncheons
9. The drinking fountains and coffee service will remain unavailable until further notice.