



Victory Temple Community Church, Inc.

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GUIDELINES FOR THE REOPENING OF VTCC

ENCOURAGE AT-RISK INDIVIDUALS AND THOSE WITH SYMPTOMS OF ILLNESS TO STAY AT HOME

As we begin to reconvene our church gatherings, members in high-risk demographics should be encouraged to not physically attend regular worship services. Vulnerable individuals (the elderly and people with certain underlying medical conditions) should remain sheltered in place at this time. VTCC will continue to attend to these congregants and, if possible, make special accommodations for them—such as continuing to live-stream worship services, via Zoom and Facebook Live (<https://www.facebook.com/VTCCNJ/>), specifically for those 65 or older.

EXERCISE BEST SANITATION PRACTICES

VTCC will implement best sanitation practices and will implement the following protocols:

- Take the temperature of people who attend services.
- All members from the age of two and above are required to wear face masks. If you do not have one, an Usher will provide a disposable one to you.
- Require everyone to use hand sanitizer upon entering the building as there are sanitizing stations throughout the Church facility.
- Disinfect high traffic areas, including restroom facilities between uses. We will also limit the number of persons using the restrooms at the same time.

“IF YOU’RE NOT WALKING IN VICTORY, YOU’RE LIVING IN DEFEAT”

- Remind VTCC members to cover coughs and sneezes with a tissue.
- Encourage members to wash hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds.
- At this time, the use of pew Bibles and hymnals are discouraged. When they are used, they will be regularly sanitized according to best practices.

MAKE OTHER APPROPRIATE ADJUSTMENTS

In addition to the VTCC sanitation practices, we also consider these guidelines as well:

- Do not pass offering baskets, but instead collect tithes and offerings in a central collection basket (such as a basket placed near the front or back of the sanctuary). We will also continue to encourage online giving via <https://venmo.com/VictoryTempleCommunity-Church>.
- Annie Lee Dining Hall, Computer Lab and Kitchen, which are common areas where people are more likely to closely interact, are off limits at this time.
- All instruments and microphones should not be shared and should be disinfected between use.
- We will also limit individual and congregational singing as there is evidence that the virus is transmitted through respiratory droplets that can fly farther by singing, coughing, sneezing and talking extensively.
- Do not pass out literature such as church bulletins. If material is passed out, such as offering envelopes, our ushers will be wearing gloves and sanitizing envelopes as well.
- When administering the Lord's Supper, VTCC will not pass around the communal elements. We will provide the elements pre-packaged and individually. The goal of these practices is to ensure that multiple people do not come into contact with the same surfaces and objects.
- We will refrain from two of the Rites of the church at this time: Water Baptism and Feet Washing.
- Our ushers and members are strongly encouraged not to shake hands, kiss or hug at this time. Waving or bumping elbows will take the place of hand shaking for the foreseeable future.
- We will adjust seating configurations to allow for increased social distancing. We may consider roping off every other pew. Families will be encouraged to sit together but maintain the recommended distance of six feet between families.
- We will also consider instituting a graduated process of capping attendance. VTCC will re-start by allowing a certain level of occupancy and subsequently raise it by a percentage as CDC guidelines allow for further opening up.
- Our Pastor and Elders will set the tone for the flock. Our Pastor and Elders will be going out of our way to model recommended behavior by wearing facemasks, 6 feet social distancing and washing and sanitizing hands. Our calm and cheerful demeanor can encourage congregants to adopt best practices to normalize the new guidelines.

For more information, please refer to the CDC Guidelines for Community and Faith Based Organizations:
<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/community/organizations/index.html>

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