

Welcome Back!

Covid 19 Re-Entry FAQs

When can I potentially come worship in the building again?

We are inviting members, attendees, and guests to join us for re-entry at Alliance Church on June 28th. Our service will start at 9:30 am, but please arrive early so our ushers can help you find your seat.

How will our ON-SITE Worship look?

As we enter PHASE FOUR of our Church Re-Entry Plan, we are excited to welcome you all back into our facility! We will gather with limited numbers and special considerations in line with government and health department recommendations. We will worship in two primary locations within our building; the Sanctuary and the Westview Room. We have spaced the rows of chairs an appropriate distance apart and will keep 3 chairs for space between households to promote social distancing.

In the Sanctuary, allowing for social distancing, we have calculated that the sanctuary will accommodate 80+ people. While masks are strongly encouraged by health officials, we are not requiring masks in the Sanctuary at this time. Please enter the building by the west doors under the canopy if you desire to worship in the Sanctuary.

In the Westview Room, we have set up 20 chairs. Allowing for social distancing, we can seat 12-20 people depending on the number of individuals per household. In order to accommodate those who wish to be present, but desire an extra measure of precaution, we are expecting masks to be worn in this area, and singing will be done in our hearts, but not out loud. The service in the Westview Room will be live streamed. Please enter the building by the south doors, near the church offices, if you desire to worship in the Westview Room.

Why just 100 people?

We deeply desire to worship in person with everyone that wishes to join us; however, current guidelines limit us to 50% capacity in the spaces we are utilizing.

What if more people show up than expected?

We have identified and designated overflow areas within our facility that can be utilized in case we exceed our capacity within the Sanctuary and Westview Room. We will provide a live stream for those participating in worship in the overflow areas.

Our survey indicated that about 70-80 people are ready to return as soon as possible. When we consider these numbers, combined with typical attendance patterns from previous summers, we don't anticipate exceeding our capacity; however, we will continue to monitor, reassess, and adjust our plan as we continue to move forward.

Will I have to wear a mask?

The CDC and Minnesota Department of Health advise wearing masks at inside church gatherings. If you desire to wear a mask, please bring one with you as the church is unable to supply masks for everyone at this time. Furthermore, though masks will be optional in most areas, attendees will be expected to wear masks in the Westview room.

Will there be singing?

At this time, we plan to have live singing during our worship services each week. We encourage each of you to participate in praise and worship as you are comfortable. While singing is encouraged within the sanctuary and overflow areas, singing in the Westview room will be done in our hearts, but not out loud. Worship, at its core, is a right response to God and is not limited to singing, though you may need to adjust your volume, not your enthusiasm, as we praise Him together. However, outward expressions of worship, such as lifting hands, dancing, clapping, and bowing are encouraged in this space as the Spirit leads you to respond.

What if I have small children?

We love having the opportunity to teach and interact with your kids at Alliance Church; however, until further notice, all in person children's ministries are suspended and the nursery facilities will not be staffed with volunteers. That said, our nursery space will be available for you to take your little ones to should the service be more than they are able to sit through. If you need to use a changing station, we ask that you sanitize the station when you are finished changing your child. We will have an individual busy bag available for each child that would like to have one, so please feel free to take one and bring it home with you at the end of the service.

What else should we know?

As we prepare for re-entry...

- We will continue to live stream the Sunday service if that is how you prefer to worship at this time.
- Children's ministries will continue with online content until further notice.
- We will not serve coffee or snacks. However, please feel free to bring your own beverages and treats from home to enjoy during the service.
- The drinking fountains will be turned off and unavailable until further notice.
- You will be asked to sit together as a household and to do your best to respect others by practicing social distancing.
- If you desire to give to Alliance Church, we will have designated collection areas located throughout the building. Please feel free to drop your gifts and offerings in these locations as collection plates will not be passed at this time.
- Hand sanitizer will be available in multiple locations throughout the facility and we encourage each of you to wash your hands frequently.
- We will continue to follow recommended guidelines to clean our facility between uses.
- If you feel sick or have recently experienced any symptoms of Covid 19, we ask that you show love, kindness, and respect to others by worshipping at home. Again, we will continue to offer a live stream of our Sunday service. DVD's are also available upon request.

What do I do if I have a much more specific question?

As we continue to prepare to gather together again in person, we will continue to communicate to the best of our ability. It may be that your question will be answered in a future communication as we approach the 28th. If your specific question has not been answered, please reach out to the church office and we will attempt to answer you promptly.

Feel free to contact an elder if you have any further questions.

Terry Huffman

Greg Horejsi

Derrick Paulson

A final few words of encouragement.

We look forward to seeing our dispersed church begin to come together once again! Despite our excitement, we understand that not everyone will desire to step foot in the building immediately, and we understand and empathize with you in this decision. That being said, the expansion of our digital presence has been a tangible way to see God's faithfulness during this time, and we are committed to continuing our digital ministry, and trust you will worship with us online until you become ready to join together with us in person again.

Even though this has been a unique and challenging time, we have experienced God work in so many incredible ways in the lives of our people! There have been, and likely will be, many continued changes in the future. Change always brings forward new challenges, but we believe these current options give us flexibility and direction as we aim to equip each of you to worship, connect, and serve God at Alliance Church and in the community of Little Falls. We look forward with eager anticipation to see what unfolds as God rests His hand of grace on us.