

FAQs Regarding North Central's Reopening

Q: Now that restrictions are easing, are informal gatherings, Bible studies, or small groups allowed at the building?

A: Yes, but please call the church office and schedule BEFORE you meet at the building. We want to understand the health protocols in place and provide you with proper cleaning instructions and/or disinfect the area ourselves after your event. Besides, for contact tracing purposes it is particularly important right now that we keep track of everyone using the building.

Q: Will you continue to stream the Sunday worship assembly for those who are hesitant to meet in person or need to exercise caution due to underlying health issues?

A: We understand that for health reasons and comfort levels, many will want to continue to worship from their homes. North Central will continue to offer a live stream of our service and post a recording on our website.

Q: What precautions are being taken to maintain a safe and healthy building environment?

A: Areas will be cleaned between each service or event. Restrooms and other high-contact surfaces will be disinfected regularly. The coffee station or drinking fountains will not be accessible, although bottled water will be available. Hand sanitizers will be placed in high-contact locations throughout the building.

Q: Will you be using a digital forehead thermometer at the door to screen for those who might be sick?

A: No. We are depending upon everyone acting responsibly and staying at home if they aren't feeling well. Since a number of people are asymptomatic, such measures would not provide an effective means of screening anyway. (The children's ministry does utilize a forehead thermometer for testing children that are suspected of being ill.)

We do ask that if you have had any cold symptoms or fever within the last 24 hours, or are taking a fever reducer, to please remain at home and join us for worship online.

North Central's wellness policy regarding children is to keep your child at home when you observe any of the following symptoms:

- Fever (in the past 24 hours)
- Vomiting or diarrhea (in the past 24 hours)

- Eye Discharge (in or around the eyes)
- Questionable rashes
- Other contagious illness

Q: What about face coverings? Do I need to wear a mask when I come to the worship gathering?

A: Yes. Face masks slow the spread of the COVID-19 virus from asymptomatic people to others. You are encouraged to bring your own face covering to worship, although North Central will have disposable masks available for those who need them.

Q: Are you going to pass communion or offering plates during the Sunday assembly?

A: Packaged communion cups with wafer will be used and distributed as you enter the building. You will dispose your cup as you leave the building. An offering box will be available at the back of the auditorium. We will not pass anything down the aisles.

Q: What other changes should I anticipate for our weekly Sunday assemblies?

A: North Central will offer one service during the summer, at 10:45am. If social distancing guidelines demand, we will consider adding another service. In most part, offering one service is due to the thorough cleaning demands required between services.

Singing will be congregational but without the involvement of our praise team. Pews will be marked to encourage appropriate social distancing between individuals or family units of the same households during services. Our weekly gathering will be limited to one hour, out of consideration for those watching online.

Q: Can my children play on the playground?

A: The playground will remain closed until health guidelines allow for their use. The playground is not being cleaned or disinfected at the moment. However, children can play in the grassy area (the north side of building) just outside Family Hall given parental permission and direct supervision.

Q: If my baby is crying can I take them to the nursery?

A: Yes, certainly. The nursery will be open and available to be used by parents. Feel free to attend to your child's needs. However, the nursery will NOT be staffed by volunteers for the foreseeable future.

Q: If children's classes are being postponed out of health considerations, why aren't you doing the same in terms of teen activities?

A: Most of the children's classrooms are small, unlike the spaces typically used by teens and adults. When together, children want to physically interact with each other and sometimes find it difficult to follow instructions or maintain proper sanitation and social distance.

Q: What if I'm either uncomfortable with, or not in agreement with a certain protocol or activity planned for the summer?

A: Our unwind process is excellent opportunity to practice brotherly love and patience with your fellow believers. As with other aspects of our life together, we do not insist on our own way. Rather, we submit to one another out of reverence for Christ. At other times we simply self-select not to participate in certain activities.