

BCBC Reopening FAQ

September 2020

OVERVIEW

This FAQ was collaboratively created by the BCBC Reopening Team consisting of the Pastoral Team, Trustees, Deacons, Health Consultant Team and a Congregational Representative to compile those questions most consistently encountered and offer timely information to best answer them. Please contact BCBCreopening@gmail.com if you have any questions on the content here.

PURPOSE

The following FAQ is to offer information for common questions we will all have in regards to the reopening of Birch Cove Baptist Church for in person special events and regular in person services. All information is subject to change as new information becomes available and feedback is given by the congregation to the Reopening Team.

SCOPE

Questions and answers will be directed mainly to the safety and health protocols and specific considerations to best practices for reopening Birch Cove Baptist Church. Categories of questions have been created to help navigate your search for information. The Categories are:

[What will services look like?](#)

[How will Provincial Guidelines influence worship services?](#)

[What processes are in place to ensure safety for everyone?](#)

[What are my individual responsibilities?](#)

FAQ [What will services look like?](#)

Question: Will we be worshipping in the sanctuary?

Answer: YES The service will take place in the sanctuary with masks and safe social distancing.

Question: Are we allowed to sing worship songs?

Answer: At this time, provincial health guidelines recommend that singing by the congregation not be permitted unless social distancing can be at a distance of at least 12 feet. That would make it unsafe within the confines of the sanctuary. You can hum along with your mask on :)

Question: Will worship music be played during the service?

Answer: YES Worship music will still have a place of prominence for our worship, but will have certain protocols to ensure safety. The worship team will be distanced 12 feet from each other and the congregation.

Question: Who can I sit with during the service?

Answer: You can sit with your family and friend bubble you have designated for yourself, but are asked to observe social distancing with the rest of the congregation. Seating will be arranged to accommodate this.

Question: Will we still be able to participate in communion?

Answer: YES On Communion Sundays, individually wrapped and sealed communion packages will be available at the Reception Desk on entering.

Question: How will I give my offering to the church?

Answer: The church has various payment options that include e-transfer or direct deposit that does not involve the handling of money. A drop box will be available at services and opportunity will continue to be given throughout the week at the church office building. Information on how to utilize these services can be provided to you easily.

Question: Will a Zoom worship service be still made available if I am not able to attend a physical service at the church ?

Answer: Zoom will not be used for live streaming but we are working to make an alternative live stream service available to those who wish to use it.

Question: What children's ministries are available during the worship service?

Answer: Preschool and Junior Church will be provided during the worship service. Nursery will be provided at a later date to be determined. For more information on Junior Church please contact Pastor Tara at tara@birchcovechurch.com.

Question: Will Life Park for adults or children be offered before the service?

Answer: NO Not at this time.

FAQ How will provincial guidelines influence worship?

Question: How far do I need to social distance from other members of the congregation?

Answer: Currently the provincial guidelines state that 2 meters (6 feet) of distance should be maintained to help prevent the spread of Covid-19.

Question: How do I interact with other members of the congregation?

Answer: The provincial guidelines ask that we make informed choices about who and how to interact with each other (consider age, occupation and health conditions). Even though physical contact is restricted, we are encouraged to share love in our words and worship together.

Question: Will there be two services each weekend again?

Answer: NO The provincial guidelines require at least 72 hours to pass before having another service, so for now we will be enjoying one service each weekend.

FAQ What processes are in place to ensure safety for everyone?

Question: Where will my family be seated while attending service in the main sanctuary?

Answer: Sectioned off chairs in the main sanctuary will be available for family bubbles. They will be positioned a minimum of 6 feet apart to ensure social distancing between family bubbles.

Question: Will there be hand sanitizer available to the congregation once in the church?

Answer: YES Hand sanitizer is provided and encouraged upon entering the main lobby beside the registration desk.

Question: Will there be people to guide me through the church safely?

Answer: YES There will be ushers communicating and helping everyone safely through the indicated travel areas and routes marked with floor signs and roped areas.

Question: What if a family member has mobility issues?

Answer: Anyone with mobility issues should enter through the same Main Front Entry to the Check-in. The drop off spot is located at the Main Door and parking is available to the left of the entrance.

Question: Will I be able to use the washroom during a service?

Answer: YES The Main/Sanctuary Floor washrooms are available with a maximum of two people at one time. You will travel to the hallway under the balcony and travel one way to the washrooms. After leaving the washroom you will continue on to the main lobby where you will be guided back to the sanctuary's main entrance.

FAQ What are my individual responsibilities?

Question: Will I be required to bring my own mask to service?

Answer: YES All members of the congregation will be required to bring their own masks to the service, but masks will be provided for visitors and/or if a member of the congregation forgets theirs.

Question: What is an acceptable mask?

Answer: Masks should be made of at least 2 layers of tightly woven material fabric (such as cotton or linen) and be large enough to completely and comfortably cover the nose and mouth without gaping.

Question: Will I be required to register every worship service?

Answer: YES Every person attending a church service will have to register in case there is a need to contact anyone who attended a specific service. Information on how to register will be given in the near future. There will be a registration desk in the main lobby as people enter the church's main entrance. As seating will be limited, you must email your attendance by Friday at noon to let us know you are coming. Please email the full names of everyone in your party to BCBCreopening@gmail.com.

Question: Where do I place my belongings such as my coat when I enter the church?

Answer: You will be responsible for keeping all of your belongings with you for the entire duration of the service including your coat.

Question: Will there be child care available during the service or do my children sit with me in the sanctuary for service?

Answer: Unless your children are in Junior Church or Preschool, you will be responsible for sitting with your children in the sanctuary at all times during the service and ensuring they maintain the required social distancing.

Question: Should I attend church if I am experiencing any symptoms related to Covid 19?

Answer: NO Please stay home and call 811 and take directions from them for screening and isolation procedures.