



WELCOME HOME SUNDAY



PLAN & POLICIES

CONTENTS

INTRODUCTION	04
PRECAUTIONS REGARDING THOSE WITH UNDERLYING HEALTH CONDITIONS..	06
SOCIAL DISTANCING	09
DREAM TEAM VOLUNTEERS	11
THE LORD'S TABLE	13
CHILDREN'S MINISTRY	14
PHASES INTRO	16
PHASE 1	17
PHASE 2	19
PHASE 3	21
PHASE 4	23

CONTENTS

SANITIZING FACILITIES	25
NURSERIES & RIDGE KIDS CLASSROOMS	27
APPENDIX	29



INTRODUCTION

We are excited to announce our plans for resuming public worship services! In the following pages, we have provided details regarding the schedule, policies, restrictions, and changes you will see as we resume our public gatherings. While we are grateful for the technologies that have allowed us to stay connected over the past couple of months, we are looking forward to being able to fully reflect the model God's Word gives for the Church as we assemble together. (church: from Greek ekklesia meaning called out assembly)

With recognition of our responsibility to the people of God, our command from God, and our Constitutional rights as Americans, we feel a stirring from God to prepare adequately and safely for the slow and safe return to worship. We have sought legal and medical counsel, as well as consultation with our elected officials in making this plan. Mostly, we are sensitive to the leading of the Lord in this process.

04

For the past few months, while we have been concerned for religious liberty, we have nevertheless followed the guidance of our government for the safety of others and cancelled all in-person church services in order to practice social distancing during the COVID-19 breakout. Now, as our President is urging cautious return to business, our state's "safer at home" end date is approaching, and our County is moving to a "Phase 2" opening for city affairs, we feel a stirring from God to prepare adequately and safely for the slow and safe return to worship.

INTRODUCTION

We have sought legal and medical counsel, as well as consultation with our elected officials in making this plan. Mostly, we are sensitive to the leading of the Lord in the process. The following pages will outline our plan in phases. Churches in state's with less sickness may return to worship earlier, and smaller churches may mobilize more quickly. We all need to study and prepare for the issue in context of our circumstances. It is imperative that Southridge returns with proper patience, understanding and biblical conviction.

Church members and workers are urged to read this document in order to participate in upcoming services. We all desire safety as instructed by government leaders (Rom. 13), and we desire to obey the command of Scripture to assemble and worship (Heb. 10:25). We believe church is essential! Let's work together to continue to lead people to find and follow Jesus.

05



**PRECAUTIONS
REGARDING THOSE
WITH UNDERLYING
HEALTH CONDITIONS/**

**PRIMARY CAREGIVERS FOR PEOPLE WITH
UNDERLYING HEALTH CONDITIONS**

06

WELCOME HOME SUNDAY

We love each and every member of our church family and recognize your importance to this body of Christ followers. It is our desire to be in close fellowship with everyone as much as possible. Everyone is important and valued.

Because of the dangers related to COVID-19, we are asking that those who have underlying health conditions such as breathing conditions, cancer treatments, suppressed immune systems, etc. to please stay home and continue worshipping via livestream during Phase 1 of our return. (Phasing will be explained in **Page 17**). It may be necessary for those folks to stay away from "crowds" longer than Phase 1, however, we must start with this safety measure. Who is at risk? Based on what we know now, those at high-risk for severe illness from COVID-19 are:

- People 65 and older, People of all ages with underlying medical conditions, particularly if not well controlled, including:
 - People with chronic lung disease or moderate to severe asthma
 - People who have serious heart conditions
 - People who are immunocompromised; many conditions can cause a person to be immunocompromised, including cancer treatment, smoking, bone marrow or organ transplantation, immune deficiencies, poorly controlled HIV or AIDS, and prolonged use of corticosteroids and other immune weakening medications; people with severe obesity (body mass index [BMI] of 40 or higher)
 - People with diabetes
 - People with chronic kidney disease undergoing dialysis
 - People with liver disease

If we become aware that someone who has been in a service becomes ill, we will follow these procedures:

- We will ask the person to stay home and seek medical care if needed. Person(s) should stay home at least seven days after symptoms started AND three days after symptoms are improved and fever resolves without the use of fever-reducing medications.
- We will contact local health officials.
- If public health officials feel we need to, we will assist with determining who needs to be contacted for contact tracing.
- Any areas we determine the confirmed COVID-19 person visited will be sanitized.



SOCIAL DISTANCING

09

WELCOME HOME SUNDAY

Southridge family & friends are asked to wear a face mask until further notice and to maintain 6ft of distance when speaking to one another. (masks have been purchased and are available for those who have forgotten to bring one.) No one will be permitted into the auditorium without a mask. Adults and children age 5 and older will need masks.



DREAM TEAM VOLUNTEERS

11

WELCOME HOME SUNDAY

With the help of our volunteers, we will be observing these distancing policies:

- Parking lot attendants will wear masks.
- In the parking lot, we will use **every other** parking space.
- No one will be permitted into the auditorium without a mask. Please bring a mask. If you forget one, they will be available in the West Wing Lobby. Adults and children ages 5 and older will need masks.
- Ushers will wear masks.
- Ushers will wear gloves if passing out or collecting materials.
- Attenders and ushers will maintain social distancing of six feet at all times from the time we drive onto the property and exit our car until the time we get back into our cars after the service.
- Auditorium doors will be propped open to avoid the touching of door handles.
- Hallways and aisles will be clearly marked for on-way foot traffic. Please follow all signage inside the building.
- Doors will be designated "entrance-only" and "exit-only". Please observe all signage. Ushers will seat attenders before the service(s).
- Families will sit **together**. There will be 3-4 empty seats between families.
 - We will sit every other row, and staggered in the rows in an alternate seating pattern to ensure social distancing. Distancing will be kept in all directions-front, back, left, and right.
- Offering plates will not be passed during the services. Secure receptacles (see appendix) will be available in the auditorium for you to drop your offering, or your are encouraged to use online giving.
- We will not be distributing a service bulletin or printed outline.

THE LORD'S TABLE

13

We will wait to observe the Lord's Table until
we have a better sense of health needs.
We will likely pre-distribute elements to each
chair.



CHILDREN'S MINISTRY

14

WELCOME HOME SUNDAY



- We will use a paper check-in system (no touch screens) and encourage parents to use their own pens. If they do not have a pen, we can have boxes of pens at each counter and encourage them to keep it for later.
- We will require parents to stand six feet apart during pick up and drop off while observing social distancing lines marked on the ground outside of nurseries.
- The forehead of children entering the nurseries and classrooms will be scanned for temperature with iHealth infrared contactless thermometers.
- If your child has a fever, you will be asked to take them home and watch the service online.
- If your child has had a fever in the last 24 hours, please keep them at home for the well-being of workers and other children.
- If it is determined during the service that your child is sick, you will be called immediately and the child will be moved to a designated pick up area.
- Snacks and drinks will not be provided by the Ministry for children.
- All workers will wear masks and gloves at all times.
- Children ages 5 and older will need a mask.
- A maximum of 10 children will be allowed in a nursery or classroom. When a room hits capacity, we will move a child to the nearest room closest to their age group.
- Chairs and tables in each nursery/classroom will be configured for six-foot distancing.
- We will prevent the sharing of toys and materials among the children. We will have crayons in separate sealing storage bags. We will encourage children to play with toys individually with puzzles, blocks, coloring pages, etc. and not in groups.

We anticipate rolling out our services in incremental steps as guidance is received. Please familiarize yourself with these **four** phases. Announcements will be given using these terms, Phases 1-4. In the event of resurgence of COVID-19, or another pandemic, we will use similar philosophy going forward. Also, depending upon governmental and medical guidelines, we could skip a phase. We will communicate as clearly and consistently as possible.



■ PHASE 1

17

WELCOME HOME SUNDAY

PHASE 1 ——— Drive-In Church & Essentials Giveaway

May 17 - June 7 @9:00AM

————— DATES

LOCATION ——— Location: Oak Grove High School

Sunday, June 7th will be the last Essentials Giveaway at our church. After this date anything that comes in for the Essentials Giveaway will be used for families on a cases by cases bases. Southridge Church will no longer be financially subsidizing the Essentials Giveaway.

Whatever comes in free each week we will use that to giveaway after our morning worship service.



■ PHASE 2

19

WELCOME HOME SUNDAY

PHASE 2

June 14 - July 26

DATES

LOCATION

Wyndham Garden Inn

Sunday Morning Schedule: we are conducting multiple services in order to meet the guidelines to reduce the seating in the auditorium to less than 25% of capacity.

20

English & Spanish Services - 9AM & 10:30AM. Services are for all, and children age 5 and older can sit with their parent(s). Each family will be separated by 3-4 seats from the next family. Ushers will alternate seating patterns to ensure social distancing.

Sunday, June 14 we will host our first in-person gathering for our volunteers only at 9AM.

For our regular attenders and guests who are not yet serving on our Dream Team, we will be holding a drive-in service at 10AM.

There is a chance that in early-mid July you will see an increase in how many are allowed to sit inside the Auditorium.



■ PHASE 3

21

WELCOME HOME SUNDAY

PHASE 3

TBD

DATES

LOCATION

Wyndham Garden Inn

We will be ending the Drive-In Church Services at Wyndham and moving to 2 services at the Wyndham Garden Inn.

22

Sunday Morning Schedule: we are conducting multiple services in order to meet the guidelines to reduce the seating in the auditorium to less than 50% of capacity.

English & Spanish Services - 9AM & 10:30AM. Services are for all, and children age 5 and older can sit with their parent(s). Each family will be separated by 3-4 seats from the next family. Ushers will alternate seating patterns to ensure social distancing. We will also be launching Ridge Kids for ages 0-10 years old.



■ PHASE 4

23

WELCOME HOME SUNDAY

PHASE 4 _____

TBD _____

DATES

LOCATION _____ Wyndham Garden Inn

24

We believe that in the Fall we will be back to a relatively "new normal" as far as our regular worship services.



SANITIZING FACILITIES

25

WELCOME HOME SUNDAY

- Chairs and tables are being sanitized before and after each service.
- Immediately after each service, our team of volunteers will make sure that the entire auditorium is properly sanitized.
- After each service, we will remove all trash and left over personal items from the auditorium. Personal items will be collected and held temporarily. If you notice that you have left an item, please notify us immediately.
- We are increasing ventilation as much as possible in the buildings.
- Handles to all entry/exit doors are being sanitized before and after each service.
- Sanitation stations are cleaned and checked for functionality before and after each service.
- Light switches are sanitized before and after every service.



**NURSERIES
& RIDGE KIDS
CLASSROOMS**

27

WELCOME HOME SUNDAY

- Initially, there will be no childcare available. Notice will be given when there is a change to this policy.
- Prior to making childcare available during services, all toys will be logged into an inventory. Toys that are old, dirty, or contain grooves that are unable to be cleaned, will be discarded.
- All toys, chairs, counters, and tables will be thoroughly sanitized before, after and frequently during services.

APPENDIX

"Guidelines for Opening Up America Again," prepared by the White House and CDC, April 2020

Interim Guidance for Administrators and Leaders of Community- and Faith-Based Organizations to Plan, Prepare, and Respond to Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19), <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/community/organizations/guidance-community-faith-organizations.html>, April 2020

"Checklist for Churches-Reopening of Indoor Services," Pacific Justice Institute, April 2020

Novel Coronavirus (COVID-19) Santa Clara County Department of Public Health Guidance for Faith-Based Organizations, <https://www.sccgov.org/sites/opa/opa/covid19/Pages/home.aspx>

COVID-19 Industry Guidance: Places of Worship and Providers of Religious Services and Cultural Ceremonies, <https://covid19.ca.gov/pdf/guidance-places-of-worship.pdf>



southridgesanjose.com