

# Christian Bible Church COVID-19 Safety Guidelines<sup>1</sup>

Effective Sunday January 4, 2021

As a result, the Governor of New York allowance for gatherings for religious services in limited capacities utilizing social distancing our church is currently meeting at our location at 11 Manor House Square, Yonkers, NY

## REGATHERING GUIDELINES

Since the threat of COVID-19 lingers, our Elders have developed these guidelines to help prevent the spread of the virus when we gather. These guidelines were developed in compliance with federal<sup>2</sup> and state<sup>3</sup> government guidelines and in consultation other church leaders and healthcare professionals. Though inconvenient and different, these precautions inside our building are for our mutual wellbeing.

### When will these guidelines be lifted?

We will also adjust the guidelines over time, as the threat from COVID-19 diminishes and government officials also loosen restrictions.

## GUIDELINES FOR GATHERINGS INSIDE THE CHURCH BUILDING

All gatherings held inside our church facility shall follow these guidelines.

### KEEPING CAPACITY UNDER REQUIRED LIMITS

- The number of attendees will be capped by the most current limits required by the State of New York. Therefore the door greeter may inform you that the service has reached capacity and you will not be allowed to enter. We encourage you to arrive early to obtain a spot.

### SITTING IN SANCTUARY

- Sit together with members of your household in the same pew.
- Follow directional signs guiding you where to sit.

### FACIAL COVERINGS

- You must wear a face covering inside our facility unless:
  - You are under 2 years of age
  - You are unable to wear a face covering for medical reasons.
- Please bring your own face covering from home. If you forget, ask the door greeter for a mask.

### HAND HYGIENE

- We encourage you to bring a small container of hand sanitizer for your personal use.
- Hand sanitizer will be located throughout the church facility if you do not have your own.
- Follow the handwashing guidelines posted in the bathrooms.

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<sup>1</sup> These guidelines are subject to change.

<sup>2</sup> Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, "Interim Guidance for Communities of Faith," 2020, <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/php/faith-based.html>, (accessed May 26, 2020).

<sup>3</sup> New York State Department of Health, "Interim Guidance for Religious & Funeral Services during the Covid-19 Public Health Emergency," 2020, <https://www.governor.ny.gov/sites/governor.ny.gov/files/atoms/files/ReligiousandFuneralServicesMasterGuidance.pdf>, (accessed July 7, 2020).

### **SOCIAL DISTANCING**

- Maintain a distance of 6 feet between yourself and others while inside our building.
- If you must be less than 6 feet from another person, please put on a facemask.
- Refrain from physical contact such as handshakes or hugs.
- Follow the directional signage as you proceed throughout our facility.

### **OFFERING**

- Place your offering in the box in the back of the church or continue to give online.

### **FOOD & BEVERAGE**

- Food and beverages will not be served before or after our services for the time being.
- Please do not bring any food or beverages to share.

### **BRIEF CLEANING BEFORE LEAVING**

- Following the end of the service, take 5 minutes and use the provided cleaning supplies to wipe down your pew and a few commonly touched surfaces.
- Dispose of your used cleaning wipes in the trash bins.

## **SHOULD I STAY HOME?**

Please stay at home and feel no obligation to attend if:

- You have had symptoms of COVID-19 over the last 14 days.
- You have traveled to a state on the State of New York's travel quarantine list within the past 14 days.
- You believe it is unwise to attend because you are in a high risk group or have underlying health conditions
- You are uncomfortable attending for the time being. We understand and please do not feel obligated to attend.

## **OTHER CONCERNS**

### **SMALL GROUP BIBLE STUDIES**

- Small group Bible studies will meet both virtually and in person for the time being. Please refer to our website for the most recent information.

### **REDUCING CONTACT WITH SURFACES**

- To reduce contact with surfaces, we will temporarily not use bulletins, hymnals, or pew Bibles
- Please bring your own Bible each Sunday.

### **THANK YOU**

Thank you for sticking by our church during this challenging season. Your continual Christ-likeness will help us carry out these precautions so we all can be as safe as possible. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact one of our church's Elders.