

Re-Opening the Church with Wisdom

Dear Trinity Wellsprings Church family,

I find the same sentiment, expressed so beautifully by the apostle Paul in his love for the Philippian church, in my own heart for all of you: "For God is my witness, how I yearn for you all with the affection of Christ Jesus" (Phil. 1:8).

These weeks of COVID-19 have turned life upside down. Thankfully, our congregation has managed to stay "Together, Apart". We have responded missionally by surprising *Neighbor Up Brevard* with a food drive for struggling families, blessed 125 Zon Assisted Living Workers on the local front line of the coronavirus (while supporting local restaurants in the process), fed 100 families living on a town dump in Guatemala, and helped Iranian seminarian-refugees living in Turkey. We have "learned on the fly" about online worship (even during Holy Week), connected via zoom calls, reacted with great missional flexibility, and displayed a heightened level of congregational graciousness throughout all the changes. Well done, Trinity!

As the State of Florida continues to reopen, the leadership of TWC has prayerfully put together a plan for restarting our worship services on June 7, 2020 in a way that is wise, measured, and continues to exercise an abundance of caution in prioritizing the health and safety of our congregation. I encourage you to read the entire plan **in full** as our gathered worship will look and feel very different in the weeks ahead.

An Unmatched Level of Graciousness

With all the complexity surrounding our re-opening plan, one value stands head-and-shoulders above all the others. In the ensuing weeks ahead, our church family will continue to display an *unmatched level of graciousness* as we navigate these changes together. Trinity Wellsprings Church longs to be a true reflection of the love and grace of Jesus Christ despite the myriad of changes caused by the coronavirus in our society.

Whether you come back sooner or later to gathered worship, you are accepted and loved at Trinity. As a body of Christ, we are united in our commitment to the unchanging Word of God, the life-changing Mission of God, and the grace-filled Love of God. These truths do not change for our church! As a church family, we will "make every effort to keep the unity of the Spirit through the bond of peace" (Eph. 4:3) even as our culture promotes endless division and even as seismic changes affect the way we have become accustomed to being the church.

Brothers and sisters, I am confident that our congregation is being prepared to live out our calling and mission in the world in even more robust, more courageous, and more faithful ways as we follow Jesus into the future.

Thankful to be on this Journey with you,

Rev. Dr. Jason Carter



Re-Opening the Church with Wisdom

Explanation

Out of an abundance of caution, Trinity Wellsprings Church will re-open slowly in stages.

Capacity

Sanctuary: 425 seats; Chapel: 175 seats; BeachHouse: 240 seats (9:00 service typically 45-50% Capacity; 10:30 service typically 40-45% Capacity)

Eventbrite: Reserve Your Seats

Eventbrite is a self-service ticketing platform that will allow you to electronically reserve your seat each Sunday. In stages 1, 2, (and possibly 3), you will need to reserve your seat (for FREE) via Eventbrite. Tickets will be limited to the number of seats available in each venue in each stage.

How to Register for one of Trinity's Four Services:

How Visit our website - TrinityWellsprings.com

By When Each Friday (preferably)

What if a venue reaches capacity? Then please register for another time/venue with space.

Why To ensure our church can practice safe social distancing.

STAGE 1

LIMITED CAPACITY

WORSHIP SERVICE
Online & Gathered

LIMITED CAPACITY

Sanctuary: 75-100
Tent: 75-100
Chapel: 50
BeachHouse: 60

STAGE 2

25% CAPACITY

WORSHIP SERVICE
Online & Gathered

LIMITED CAPACITY

Sanctuary: 100-125 Tent: 75-125 Chapel: 50 BeachHouse: 60

STAGE 3

35-40% CAPACITY

WORSHIP SERVICE
Online & Gathered

LIMITED CAPACITY

Sanctuary: 150 Tent: 75-150 Chapel: 75 BeachHouse: 75

STAGE 4

NO RESTRICTIONS

WORSHIP SERVICE
Online & Gathered

REGULAR SEATING
CAPACITY

Re-Opening the Church with Wisdom

Governing Principles and Values for Re-Opening our Church

- 1. **Health and Safety:** Our first priority will be the safety and health of our congregation and staff.
- 2. **Be Subject to Governing Authorities (Rom. 13:1-2):** We will adhere to federal, state, and city guidelines.
- 3. **Information is Power:** We will stay informed on current COVID-19 trends in the state and county.
- 4. **Show Grace:** We will practice **extraordinary grace** with one another as a church family as people deal with this global pandemic in diverse ways and choose to re-enter gathered worship at different times.
- 5. **Touchless Worship:** The goal is to facilitate a completely touch-free entry and exit from our worship services.
- 6. **Priority of Gathered Worship:** We will initially meet for Sunday services only.

Worship Services during TWC Stage 1 of Re-Opening

- 1. **The Target Date:** The target date for restarting worship is **June 7, 2020**. (*This date is subject to change based on state and county guidelines.*)
- 2. **Online Services:** Our online services will continue by live streaming from the sanctuary each week at 10:30 am (note the time change) starting June 7.
- 3. **Four Services for More Social Distancing:** We will have four services with limited seating capacity during TWC's Initial Stage #1 Re-Opening.
 - **8:00: Chapel** (Traditional)
 - **9:15:** Outside Tent (Contemporary)
 - **10:30: Sanctuary** (Blended: Contemporary and Hymns)
 - **5:00: Beach House** (Modern: Amanda & Michel Avey, Brad Brewers, Becca Bowers)
- 4. **8:00 Chapel -- Most Vulnerable Service (60+ & Immunocompromised):** Trinity wants to care for people most vulnerable to COVID-19, which means the 8:00 AM Chapel service will be designated **exclusively** for the Immunocompromised and Ages 60+.
- 5. **Eventbrite:** People will register for a particular service on "Eventbrite" on a first-come & first-service basis to ensure our ability to practice social distancing. *Eventbrite allows you to reserve a seat in a distinct venue in order to help us practice social distancing.*
- 6. **Tent Service:** You are welcome to BYOBC (Bring Your Own Beach Chair) or use the plastic Beach House chairs. Come as a family! The tent will be located in the parking lot between the Beach House and JAMLand.
- 7. **10:30 Overflow Room Fellowship Hall:** We anticipate that the overflow room will not be necessary. Our hope is that people will register via Eventbrite. Yet, just in case, we will be prepared with an overflow room in the Fellowship Hall if the sanctuary reaches our social distancing capacity.
- 8. **Choir:** There will be no choir until further notice. Small ensembles or bands will be utilized.
- 9. **Lord's Supper:** The Lord's Supper will not take place during TWC's Initial Stage #1 of Re-Opening.

Preparing our Facilities | Safely Entering the Worship Spaces

- 1. **Deep Cleaning:** Our cleaning service has completed a deep cleaning of our facilities.
- 2. **Hand Sanitizer:** Hand sanitizer bottles will be available in public areas (entrances, bathrooms, common areas).
- 3. **Entering the Building:** We will utilize multiple entrances to enter the sanctuary and chapel to alleviate the congestion of foot traffic.
 - a. Sanctuary will utilize north & south main entrances, fellowship hall entrances, <u>and side doors of the sanctuary</u> (until the service begins). Chapel will utilize all three entrance/exit doors.
 - b. We will place tape at 6 foot intervals at main entrances and inside choke points
- 4. **Doors Propped Open:** Entrance doors and exit doors will be propped open at the appropriate times.
- 5. **Social Distancing at Entry/Exit Points:** People are encouraged not to congregate at entry choke points to allow for safe, uncongested passage into worship areas.
- 6. **Signage:** Signage will be placed on campus reminding people of social distancing and general hygiene.
- 7. **Closed Spaces:** All non-utilized entrances will be closed (JAMLand, Oasis, Offices, 300 Building).

Seating & Exiting | Changes in Worship

- 1. **Social Distancing Seating:** Every other pew in our 425-seat Sanctuary will be roped off. Chapel service will use chair seating which will be arranged by family units and observe six feet between distinct family units.
- 2. **Exiting Instructions:** After the benediction, the congregation will be given instructions about how to safely exit in an orderly way (by rows and sections) without creating congestion. Everyone will be encouraged to use all available exits and not congregate at exit points.
- 3. **Use of Masks**: All worshipers are highly recommended to wear masks during worship services. This is the expectation of leadership. Single-use masks will be available at the church for anyone needing a mask.
- 4. **Congregational Singing:** During Stage 1 of Re-Opening, we will not encourage congregational singing (since people will be masked) though if people want to sing from behind their mask, they are free to do so.
- 5. **We will not pass the offering plate**. No touch offering boxes will be placed near exits.
- 6. **We will not utilize bulletins**. Hymnals, pew bibles, and other literature will be removed from pew racks. People are encouraged to bring their own Bibles from home.
- 7. **Shortened Worship Services:** Our worship services will be ~45 minutes in length.
- 8. **Food & Hospitality:** No food or coffee service will be available on campus.
- 9. **Welcome Center & Bookstore:** The Welcome Center and TWC Bookstore will be closed.

Children & Students

- 1. **Family Worship:** Families are encouraged to attend together (esp. 9:15 am Service and the 5:00 pm Evening Gathering).
- 2. **Childcare:** No childcare will be offered until further notice.
- 3. **JAMLAND**: No children's ministry will take place during the summer.
- 4. **VBS**: Our VBS will not be held on-campus. This summer, VBS will be (i) shortened, (ii) encourage parental involvement, and (iii) feature limited online content.
- 5. **RIPTIDE**: Wednesday night RIPTIDE will not meet initially during TWC's Initial Stage #1 of Re-Opening.

Health Matters

- 1. **Transparent Communication about Health:** We encourage the following individuals not to attend during TWC's Initial Stage #1 Re-Opening:
 - a. Those who fall into a high risk category according to the CDC, which includes individuals with: chronic lung disease, moderate to severe asthma, serious heart conditions, immunocompromised including cancer treatment, smoking, bone marrow or organ transplantation, immune deficiencies, poorly controlled HIV or AIDS, prolonged use of corticosteroids and other immune weakening medications, severe obesity, diabetes, chronic kidney disease and undergoing dialysis, liver disease.
 - b. Those who are or have recently been sick within the last 14 days,
 - c. Those who have recently traveled out of state,
 - d. Those who have any symptoms of coronavirus fever, cough, shortness of breath or difficulty breathing, chills, repeated shaking with chills, muscle pain, headache, sore throat, new loss of taste or smell.
- 2. **Masks:** All worshipers are highly recommended to wear masks during worship services. This is the expectation of leadership.
- 3. **Family Seating:** Members of the same household are encouraged to sit together; however, social distancing should be practiced with other congregants.

Life Groups | Men's Breakfast | Lord's Supper

- 1. **Life Groups**: We will continue to encourage online zoom calls or meeting off-campus during TWC's Stage 1.
- 2. **Lord's Supper:** We will continue to practice abstinence from the Lord's Supper during Stage 1 of Reopening. During TWC Stage 2, we will celebrate the Lord's Supper with pre-packaged elements and by encouraging people to bring bread and juice boxes from home to church.
- 3. Men's Breakfast: Canceled in June.