

# Grace Covenant Church

## COVID-19 Preparedness Plan

May 14 Updates

- Mask Requirement removed.
- Social Distancing Requirements removed.
- COVID Building Protocols removed.

### COVID-19 Preparedness Plan

For this plan, workers include any staff or volunteer performing in an official capacity including worship team, sound room staff, ushers, and pastoral staff. This plan will include policies and procedures designed to protect the vulnerable and provide information on how the church is responding to social distancing and sanitization guidelines.

### Cleaning and Disinfecting Protocols

- Rooms that are used will be cleaned by EEI during the week.
- A hand sanitizer station will be available in the front hall.
- Those who use the church are asked to keep good hygiene by washing their hands regularly.
- During the week:
  - Disinfecting wipes and/or spray will be available to wipe down tables, bathroom, doorknobs, and other surfaces.
  - Those who use the facility are asked to wipe down any surfaces that they may have come in contact with prior to leaving the area.

### COVID Symptoms, Exposure and Quarantines

- Staff, workers, and attendees are required to stay home if they have COVID-19 symptoms, tested positive, or have been exposed to COVID-19. See Quarantine Guidance for COVID-19 [www.health.state.mn.us/diseases/coronavirus/quarguide.pdf](http://www.health.state.mn.us/diseases/coronavirus/quarguide.pdf) and If You Are Sick: COVID-19 - Minnesota Dept. of Health [www.health.state.mn.us/diseases/coronavirus/sick.html](http://www.health.state.mn.us/diseases/coronavirus/sick.html) for more information.<sup>1</sup>
- If staff or volunteers are exposed or test positive for COVID-19, they will contact Pastor Greg so that proper steps can be taken.

### Food Service

There is no evidence that people can get COVID-19 from eating food. However, sharing utensils and congregating around food service areas may present risks.

- Food will be served in individual, pre-packaged boxes, bags, or plates. Avoid sharing of foods and utensils.

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<sup>1</sup> <https://www.health.state.mn.us/diseases/coronavirus/safefait.pdf>

- Individuals from separate households should remain at least 6 feet apart when waiting in line.
- Tables will be spaced at least 6 feet apart and 6 people will be allowed per table.
- Disposable food service items (e.g., utensils, dishes) will be used when possible. If disposable items are not used, all non-disposable food service items will be handled with gloves and washed with dish soap and hot water or in the dishwasher. Individuals should wash their hands after removing their gloves or after directly handling used food service items.
- Individuals must take food and beverages back to their tables and only eat or drink while seated.

## Communications and Training Protocols

- The Leadership Team is responsible for development and implementation of this plan.
- Pastor Greg and the Office will communicate this plan through proper channels.
- MDH posters will go up at the entrances as reminders of best practices.
- Connect Team will train ushers.

## What You Can Do to Minimize Transmission

These are things you can do to protect yourself and provide an inviting space for others to enter into worship with you. Please follow these guidelines and the direction of church workers on Sunday mornings to allow everyone to feel welcome and safe.

- Anyone who feels sick should stay home.
- If you are at high risk, you are encouraged to stay home.
- Disposable masks are on hand for those that need one.
- You are encouraged to wash your hands before attending church or utilize the bathroom sinks or hand sanitizer station in the hallway.

## Giving

- In order to minimize risk to our ushers and staff that handle donations, we ask that you consider giving online - [www.gracecov.net/give](http://www.gracecov.net/give)
- After the service, one usher will collect the offering by the front door as you exit - we will not pass a plate during the service.
- Our financial policy requires at least two ushers count donations. This will continue. Ushers will count, deposit, sanitize the desk area, and wash their hands when complete.