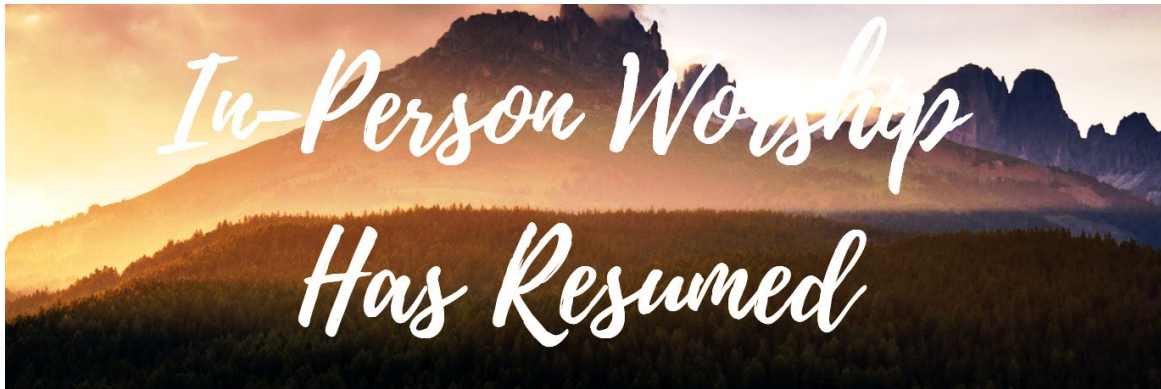


ST PAUL AME CHURCH



The 3rd District, Bishop McCloud and the Covid Task Force have REOPENED the AME Churches.

St. Paul will reopen on **NOVEMBER 7TH** using the guidelines established by the task force committee.

The letter from the Bishop is included below.

ST PAUL will closely follow procedures previously set-up:

STEP 1

REGISTER: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/st-paul-ame-church-sunday-morning-worship-tickets-199224805757>

WHY DO I NEED TO REGISTER?

I shouldn't have to "register" in order to attend church
Other churches don't require registration

PLEASE HELP US MAKE OUR CHURCH AS SAFE AS POSSIBLE!

REGISTRATION ALLOWS US TO PLAN FOR NUMBER OF MEMBERS AND PROVIDE CONTACT TRACING IF IT BECOMES NECESSARY

STEP 2

ARRIVE EARLY:

Temperature will be checked and an usher will direct you towards your seat. Please adhere to 6' social distancing!

WHY CANT I SIT WHERE I WANT?

I've sat on the 2nd pew – every Sunday for the past 15 years
Other churches don't require registration

PLEASE HELP US MAKE OUR CHURCH AS SAFE AS POSSIBLE!

Designated seating is the safest way for our in person worship

STEP 3

ENJOY WORSHIP:

We will attempt to limit worship to approximately one hour. Please exit by following ushers and not congregating inside the church

WHY AN ABBREVIATED WORSHIP?

We need the complete worship experience – this shortened worship doesn't work for me.
We need a full choir – more diverse music

PLEASE HELP US MAKE OUR CHURCH AS SAFE AS POSSIBLE!

Less time in the sanctuary and smaller choirs are the best way to ensure safety!

LET'S WORK TOGETHER
with prayer and understanding



Message from the Bishop

INSTRUCTIONS FOR THE OPENING WITH INSTRUCTIONS SPECIFIC TO ST. PAUL IN RED

To: Pastors & Congregations

Re: Information about reopening of our churches

As you know, a task force is meeting to review and help determine a strategy for re-entry into our church facilities. At present, Bishop McCloud has given instructions to begin preparing our church congregations and our facilities again for re-opening soon. While the exact date has not been officially set, we can expect it within a few weeks or so. Therefore, please be sure the following things are in place and well understood by everyone.

All persons who gather inside for worship should be vaccinated. Proof of vaccination for congregants 12 and over will be required upon your first entry back into the sanctuary. Those who remain unvaccinated should join by virtual means. Small children should remain with their families and not roam about. Families who are already around each other may sit together. **If anyone is ill for any reason, they should not attend in person.** Announce this so that everyone is aware of the expectation! Please continue to encourage all persons to get fully vaccinated. THIS IS CONSIDERED BY THE CDC, THE WORLD HEALTH ORGANIZATION, MEDICAL EXPERTS, AND OUR 3RD DISTRICT HEALTH COMMISSION THE 1ST LINE OF DEFENSE. See: [Centers for Disease Control and Prevention \(cdc.gov\)](https://www.cdc.gov)

Screening questions will be asked and your temperature taken upon entering the sanctuary.

- 2. Everyone gathering inside should still wear a mask.** Please provide disposable masks in case someone shows up without one. Maintain social distances. (6 feet surrounding)
3. Make hand sanitizers available. Remove pew bibles and hymn books so that contact spread of germs and viruses can be avoided.
4. CLEAN MICROPHONES AND PODIUMS BETWEEN USERS! This can be done with clorox wipes. Remind each other!
5. Re-sanitize facilities before we officially re-start.
6. Clean your facilities between weekly gatherings. Keep the restrooms cleaned between users.

7. Schedule worships to last no longer than 1 hour. Leave immediately afterwards. Do not gather inside for conversation or make physical contact (hugging, kissing, etc.). Go outside.

8. Limit other kinds of meetings and group gatherings to virtual processes. The less we gather, the lower the risks.

This may all sound repetitive, but managing our behavior is the greatest challenge we have when we gather in person groups. So, it is worth repeating and reminding each other.

Bishop McCloud has already stated that in cases of inclement weather, we may now gather no more than 35 people inside the building for worship regardless of facility size. So, please govern yourselves accordingly! My advice is to follow ALL of the above protocols and precautions anyway. Don't take chances.

Reservations will be required prior to entry in the sanctuary.

Here is everything in a nutshell:

Clean/Sanitize facilities

ONLY vaccinated should gather in limited numbers (35) for 1 hour (until we hear otherwise)

Unvaccinated may join virtually

If you are sick stay home

Wear a mask inside (even if vaccinated)

Socially distance (families in households may sit together)

Leave the building immediately after worship

Clean facilities before returning

Pastors, please continue to access CovidActNow.org for the most recent updates of viral spread and vaccination status for your own areas. While things are getting better, there is still much to do in combating this disease that causes sickness and death, not to mention the undue stress on medical staffs and hospitals.

Everyone's help is needed.

God bless and stay safe,

