

Hillside's Covid Protocols

edited and updated Dec. 3, 2020

Stage 1 - effective Tuesday, May 26 (Groups of 10 or less)

- Open our church to groups of 10 or less using safety guidelines and social distancing. Worship Team, Committees and small groups who want to start meeting should be allowed if they are cleared on the church calendar (email Janell: office@hillsidewc.net or text 716-378-5822) and no other group is already in the building. Online options (Facebook Messenger Video, Zoom, Skype, Duo, etc) could also be offered for those who want to participate at home. Groups must stay in their designated meeting area, wear their masks, and clean/wipe down surfaces before they leave.
- We begin cleaning the church and ask cleaning teams to restart their Saturday cleaning with focus on high traffic surface areas.

Stage 2 - effective June 14, updated Dec. 3 (Groups of 50 or less)

- We will have two services: a 9:30a and a 11:00a, both services masked for the entirety of the service. We will be marking off pews to promote social distancing. There will be no bulletins or passing offertory plates, no coffee bar or kids time.
 - We will have prayer request slips of paper by our offertory box. People can place their requests in the box with their offering, preferably at the beginning of service. Communal pens will be available and hand sanitizer at this station.
 - Families are welcome to these services, but there will be no childcare or children's church at this time. Children must stay with their parents at all times. If a family uses the nursery or a play area, they are responsible for wiping down any surfaces with disinfectant.
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Hillside's Guidelines:

- If you are feeling ill or think you have been exposed to someone with COVID, please stay home to protect others in the congregation.
- We require you to bring and wear masks within the church and to practice safe social distancing (6 ft). If you do not have a mask, we will have disposable masks at the door.
- Please wash your hands and use hand sanitizer as needed and often.
- Please wipe down the door and toilet handles and faucets with a clorox wipe or spray (depending on what we can find) after using the restroom.
- During this season, we discourage touching, but if you must, please shake hands or hug only with those who desire to do so. Remember that some people are teddy bears and others are porcupines when it comes to touching at this time.
- The offering box will be in the back of the sanctuary for tithes and offering as well as prayer requests.
- Families are welcome, but there will be no nursery, child care or children's church. Children must stay with their parents or guardians. As we extend our welcome to families, we must be mindful that our services might have a few extra joyful (and sometimes not so joyful) noises.
- Do not be ashamed to stay home if you do not feel comfortable physically attending church, we want you to feel safe at Hillside. We will continue our church services online, and we look forward to the day when we can all be together.