

The Unity COVID-19 Response Team has been monitoring the guidance issued by the CDC and the World Health Organization, as well as the Pennsylvania Department of Health and the Allegheny County Health Department. Allegheny County is currently in the “Yellow Phase.” Pennsylvania plans to proceed with returning to work cautiously. Broad re-openings or re-openings that are not structured around ongoing social distancing, universal masking, or other public health guidance would likely result in a spike of cases and new stay-at-home and closure orders. The Team and Council recommends that the following guidelines should be in place during the Yellow Phase in order to support best public health practices. This guidance reinforces and builds on existing worker and building safety orders, as well as CDC guidance for faith-based organizations. It will also be able to adapt to the changing nature of the pandemicⁱ, as well as lessons learned from communities that return to work strategically.

Recommendations of the Council & the Response Team for Unity Presbyterian Church during the Yellow Phase:

Overall Safety Protocol

1. Before the building is reopened, a cleaning service company deep clean and disinfect the church building, including classrooms, restrooms, and common areas such as the Office area, Kitchen and Fellowship Hall, following CDC guidelines. Windows in the sanctuary should be opened for ventilation during cleaning.
2. That surfaces, door handles, and floors will be cleaned before and after each worship service. Groups using one of the designated meeting locations will be responsible for cleaning the area after the meeting. Supplies will be available in each area for this purpose.
3. CDC posters along with procedures and protocols will be put up in the entrance hallway and office area.
4. That the Church Building be opened in incremental stages, as described below, beginning with measured steps throughout June.

Visitors to the Facility

1. **Weekday visitors** must enter the office area through the vestibule off the rear parking lot. The vestibule window and door to the hallway will remain locked. All other entrance doors will remain closed.
2. All visitors, including church members, will be required to sign in using the sign-in clipboard at the vestibule window. [Prior to COVID-19, members were not required to sign in; due to Pa. DOH guidelines, the Team recommends compliance by all visitors.]

Group Meetings

1. That Church Committees and Teams be encouraged to use the Church’s Zoom account for meetings. Committees and Teams of 10 people or less may meet at the church if they use the courtyard, lounge, transept or office conference room.
2. Outside group events at the church (e.g., AARP, Shalom Fellowship, Telugu Fellowship, and including outside group parties and gatherings) have been cancelled through the end of July.
3. To comply with CDC guidance on Contact Tracking, attendance will be taken for all group meetings.
4. Pittsburgh Music Academy may resume private lessons in the summer in designated rooms following appropriate protocols and procedures.

Worship Services

1. That worship services continue to be live-streamed and recorded, using improved video production capability.
2. That the church facility be open for worship services **with measured and practice steps by Invitation Only in June**. Example: Graduates and their families are being invited to attend June 7th with no other attendees.
3. The initial small-group worship services with comply with CDC and PA DOH requirements on the number of people allowed (currently, in the Yellow Phase, it is 25 people, including our worship team of 8).
4. **That congregants use only the double doors off the rear parking lot to enter and exit the church building** before and after worship service. All other doors, including the front doors facing Greentree Road and the double doors on the Manse side, will not be used.
5. **That practices of wearing a face mask, social distancing, and hand sanitizing continue.** Face masks will be provided for those who do not have them. Individuals not having a face mask or not wanting to wear one will not be allowed to enter the church for the worship service.

6. To comply with CDC guidance on Contact Tracking, attendance for worship services will be taken as people enter the building.
7. That the hallway leading to the sanctuary from the rear double doors have 6-foot floor markings.
8. That designated seating areas in the pews be marked in order to maintain the recommended distance of 6 feet. Family members may be seated next to each other in a designated area. Ushers / Guides will direct people to the appropriate spaces for you to sit. (Please do not plan on sitting in your usual spot)
9. **Worship service information will appear on the large screen monitors in the sanctuary.** Paper bulletins, handouts or flyers not be used in order to eliminate touch points;
10. **Congregational singing in the sanctuary will be discouraged.**
11. Throughout the summer, individuals will not be permitted to congregate/socialize in the transept or lounge after worship. There will be no a Coffee Hour.
12. There will be **no Child Care.**

THE FOLLOWING ARE YELLOW-PHASE RESTRICTIONS FROM THE PA DOH:

- Telework Must Continue Where Feasible
- Businesses with In-Person Operations Must Follow Business and Building Safety Orders
- Child Care Open Complying with Guidance
- Congregate Care and Prison Restrictions in Place
- Schools Remain Closed for In-Person Instruction

SOCIAL RESTRICTIONS

- Stay at Home Order Lifted for Aggressive Mitigation
- Large Gatherings of More Than 25 Prohibited
- In-Person Retail Allowable, Curbside and Delivery Preferable
- Indoor Recreation, Health and Wellness Facilities and Personal Care Services (such as gyms, spas, hair salons, nail salons and other entities that provide massage therapy), and all Entertainment (such as casinos, theaters) Remain Closed
- Restaurants and Bars Limited to Carry-Out and Delivery Only
- All businesses must follow CDC and DOH guidance for social distancing and cleaning; Monitor public health indicators, adjust orders and restrictions as necessary.

ⁱ On May 22, the Governor announced that 17 Pennsylvania counties, including 4 in the western part of the state (Lawrence, Venango, Clarion and Jefferson) but not including Allegheny County, that have met the metrics during the Yellow phase will move to the Green phase on June 5th. The Governor has stated that moving into the Green phase will still require precautions to keep our families safe, and that COVID-19 continues to be a threat, and it will be so until we have a cure or a vaccine. In the Green phase, certain restrictions will be continued, and citizens must still abide by CDC requirements:

- All businesses may resume operations.
- Bars and restaurants can reopen at reduced capacity.
- Large entertainment gatherings (concerts, festivals and sporting events) will not be allowed.
- Teleworking will continue to be encouraged.
- Nursing home visitations will continue to be restricted.
- Practice social distancing.
- Wear a mask when in public.