

Grossnickle COB guidelines for returning to indoor worship – 10/20/2020 (updated 3/25/2021)

Temperatures – Members of the congregation are encouraged to consider taking their temperature at home before coming to indoor worship. If a temperature of 100.4 deg. F or above is reported, please do not attend worship.

Masks – Wearing masks that cover the nose and mouth are required at all times while inside the church or parish hall. Please bring your own mask if possible. A limited number of disposable masks will be available. The CDC recommends masks for those age 2 and up.

Church Doors – Both main exit doors at the rear of the sanctuary will be available for worship. Doors will be propped open before and after worship to avoid additional contact on door handles.

Entering church – There will be ushers available to assist those attending worship with finding an available seat that meets social distancing guidelines.

Hand sanitizer – Will be available in the narthex and on front pew of back section near side exit door. Will be available near the two main entrances to the parish hall.

No direct personal contact – Shaking hands, hugging, fist and elbow bumping is discouraged in consideration of the health of others.

Social distancing – Plan to utilize ushers to guide people to their seats. All who attend worship should sit 6 feet apart from any non-family members.

Items in pews – Hymnals and Bibles will be removed from pews. Members of the congregation are encouraged to bring their own bible.

Singing – There will be no singing at this time for indoor services due to the increased risk of spreading a virus to others.

Bulletins – Initially, there are no plans to have printed bulletins available. After the social distancing aspects have been worked out at a later date, bulletins may be placed on pews or parish hall chairs at seating locations within guidelines.

Offering in sanctuary – Offering plates will be placed on the front pew of the rear sections by the exit doors. Offerings can be given when entering or exiting worship, and will be collected by the finance commission.

Offering in parish hall – The “soup pot” that has been used for outdoor worship offerings will be placed on a table in the parish hall. Offering will be collected following worship.

Exiting Church – Those in attendance at worship in the sanctuary will be dismissed by row at the conclusion of the service. Ushers will assist with dismissing rows.

Restrooms – Restrooms will be open, with one person at a time permitted in restrooms. There will be disinfecting solution available for use in the restroom.

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Water fountains – Fountains will be turned off. Members who may need a drink are encouraged to bring your own water bottle.

Nursery – The nursery room will not be available for use.

Sunday school – Classes will not be meeting in person at this time.

Cleaning – Doorknobs, handrails, faucets, tops and ends of pews, parish hall chairs, or other surfaces that are frequently touched will be cleaned before every service.

Sharing time – Any items that need to be shared with the congregation should be shared with Pastor Sandi before the service by email or phone if possible. At this time, we will not be passing microphones for congregational sharing.

Online worship – One of the Sunday worship services will continue to be recorded on video, and will be made available on Sunday afternoon via email link and the Grossnickle Church of the Brethren Facebook page.

Multiple services – In order to best support social distancing, the Board will monitor weekly attendance and, if needed, will discuss possibilities for two Sunday morning services.

FM transmitter radio broadcast – We will be utilizing the FM transmitter as we have for outdoor services to broadcast the worship audio to anyone who prefers to stay in their vehicle.