

RE-OPENING PLAN– SUNDAY, JUNE 7th

House of the Lord Fellowship

❖ *HOTLF Church Plan to Reassemble*

We are excited to be going to *Green Phase* on Friday June 5th, 2020 for Lock Haven and Clinton County as part of Pennsylvania's reopening process. Our plan is to have our first gathered Sunday Church Service on Sunday, June 7th. We are inviting everyone to join us. We have been working on a special service just for this occasion.

As our local Clinton County moves into *Green Phase*, we want to communicate with you how we will be reassembling as safely and comfortably as possible as a church body. We are excited to being able to gather together, but we also understand our return will be significantly different for the time being. We want to ensure everyone is as comfortable and as safe as possible, so that everyone can attend if they are able.

Please take time to read through this and help us with our regathering process.

We appreciate your flexibility during this time. If you have any questions, you are welcome to contact Pastor John or Pastor Lynn by their cell phones or email Snyder@houseofthelordfellowship.org

❖ *Precautions to Help Each Other Regather*

We ask that everyone display a spirit of love and respect toward one another, as we know you will. We know you may be excited and perhaps a little anxious to return or even joining us for the first time.

Below are a few things to keep in mind as we move forward to our first service back together.

There have been varying opinions within our church family, our community, and with government officials regarding how we reassemble. The pastors and elders are doing their best to reach out to people in our church family with differing viewpoints and to access reliable information we need to make wise and informed decisions about our reopening. Our goal and heart are to make it as safe and healthy as possible while maintaining a friendly, welcoming atmosphere. As we have learned a lot recently in this time, all plans are subject to change. Our plan for reopening is subject to change as we will follow local, state, and federal guidelines and recommendations.

Our church's staff and volunteers have already been working hard to implement and ensure that our building's areas have been fully cleaned and properly sanitized according to CDC recommendations.

We want to encourage anyone in the high-risk group (older adults, people with medical conditions such as heart disease, lung disease, diabetes, cancer, etc.), or even anyone that is not comfortable returning to continue making decisions that will protect your health and the health of others. Please do not feel obligated to participate in anything you feel places you in harm's way. We ask that you please be conscientious about how COVID-19 spreads. One main way of COVID-19 spreading is close contact with others through respiratory droplets expelled by coughing, sneezing, or even talking and singing.

So please be sure to wash your hands thoroughly (full 20 seconds) after coming in contact with high-contact surfaces. You should also avoid touching your face with unwashed hands or shaking hands.

We want to encourage everyone to continue taking the necessary safety precautions. If that means you want to stay at home, please join us online.

We will continue to provide a live stream on *Facebook Live* as much as technologically possible for our Sunday service for those that are hesitant to return or unable to attend. If it is not available on live stream, then we will post it shortly after the service finishes.

We believe that we can come together to worship in a safe and comfortable way, even in a slightly different way for a time than we were used to doing. We will exercise caution and care with a healthy dose of common sense.

Sunday Service Details

Touchless Sunday

Our first Sunday service on June 7th will be a touchless Sunday and our service will be abbreviated to ensure safety for all. Meaning you will be entering and exiting the open doors without touching anything or anyone. We greatly appreciate your cooperation as we worship together in a careful, safe, and comfortable way for everyone.

A welcome team member will be at each entry to assist with the new safety protocols and answer any questions you might have.

2 Entrances

*Doors will be unlocked and open twenty minutes prior to each Sunday service.

(10am service – Doors open 9:40am). Entrance doors will remain open for airflow and so you do not have to touch anything. For this Sunday and probably for at least the duration of June, we ask that everyone continue to maintain and adhere to the recommended social distancing protocols.

We will have 2 entrances/exits for services. We ask that you only access the building through these two entrances – the main entrance of the parking lot's sanctuary door (*handicapped accessible*) or the 2nd Street side entrance (across from Gedon- Funeral Home).

We ask that attendees only access the lower main sanctuary, restrooms, and hallways surrounding the sanctuary. All other areas including the kitchen and upstairs will remain closed off.

Safety Protocols

We ask that if you are sick or have a fever that you do not attend a service.

For this Sunday and at least the duration of June, we ask that everyone continue to maintain and adhere to the recommended social distancing protocols.

Masks

Although masks are optional, we strongly recommend you wear a mask, to lovingly help ensure the well-being and safety of others.

Our church staff and volunteer teams of stage/security/welcome/media/cleaning will be wearing masks, unless they have to take them off for a microphone option.

Hand Sanitizer

Hand Sanitizer will be provided at entrances and in the hallway.

Nursery

There will be no nursery/children's services for the time being during services.

As always, children of all ages are most welcome in the services. Activity packets for younger children are available.

Baby/toddler changing tables are located in each restroom and proper sanitizer wipes are available.

Seating

We will be making modifications to our seating arrangements. We ask that you maintain a reasonable social distance as long as social distancing is recommended by health officials.

We ask that families living with one another remain seated together and children remain with their parents/guardians for services. If possible, please leave one seat or two open between you and the next family or groups of people.

Online Services – Facebook

We will try to live stream this Sunday Service on Facebook Live, but if it does not work out technologically, we will video record it and it will be available on Facebook later that Sunday morning and also for those that cannot attend.

Cleaning Between Services

Cleaning and sanitizing the Church will be performed regularly and properly after each service.

These cleaning sanitization protocols and deeper cleaning monthly and quarterly will require extra work. We are looking for a few adult cleaning volunteers for the summer's new cleaning protocols. If you are interested in volunteering for this summer's cleaning phase, please contact by text or email the Church office.

When We Return

We have made changes to things such as offerings, Communion, and greeting to minimize touch points. More information about that will be available during the service.

For the time being, we plan on making the above adjustments until we feel it is safe to return to our regular service structure. Please be patient as we make the adjustments needed to ensure everyone is as comfortable and safe as possible.

We are looking forward to be seeing you in person and meeting new friends on Sunday.

Helpful resources for up-to-date information

CDC COVID-19 Info <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-nCoV/index.html>

Pennsylvania Dept. of Health Info <https://www.health.pa.gov/topics/disease/coronavirus/Pages/Coronavirus.aspx>

CDC Recommendations for High Risk Persons <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/need-extra-precautions/index.html>

CDC Recommendations for Churches <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/community/faith-based.html>

CDC Recommended Preventative Steps <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/prevent-getting-sick/index.html>

Handwashing <https://www.cdc.gov/handwashing/when-how-handwashing.html>