

ANTELOPE ROAD CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP

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Sunday, May 31, 2020

Church family,

We know that this time apart has been full of many different emotions. We have been praying for you and praying for God to lead ARCF in what He would have us do. As God's church we have a responsibility to share and model the love of Christ to our church family, our community, and our world. As with other churches, this has been uncharted territory for us to navigate as we now consider the best way to reopen our doors to both you and to our community.

Our belief is that reopening is an important step in healing, and that it must be done with sensitivity and that there are both feelings of excitement as well as feelings of trepidation about meeting in person once again. For this reason we have made every effort to develop a plan that allows you to experience our services in the way that is most comfortable to you. So, with lots of prayer and deliberation we have put together a plan to reopen our doors that conforms to the current state and local guidelines.

Here are the specifics of our plan:

- At this time, we can only open our service to 25% of our building's capacity. For us, this means no more than 80 people. In order to hold to this standard we will implement or maintain the following:
 - Reservation system: Those who plan on attending need to "reserve" their spot(s) using our online form at myarcf.com or Facebook. Reservations can also be made by phone.
 - Counters: Volunteers will be at the door to count and ensure that we do not go over capacity. Unfortunately this could mean that we will need to turn away attendees who have not made a reservation. While we know that this is not ideal, we must adhere to the guidelines given to us by state and local authorities.
 - Online service: We will continue to stream our service online through Facebook and YouTube for those who choose to stay home.
- We encourage those that are at risk, or have concerns about being in a large gathering, to remain home and continue to watch our service over the internet at this time.
- When you are on our campus we request that you adhere to distancing guidelines of 6 feet apart. While being able to meet is exciting and there will be people that you would love to hug or shake hands with, please refrain from these activities on campus at this time. We know that this can be difficult for a loving and hugging church like ours, but be patient. We will get there soon.
- The CDC encourages the use of PPE (Personal Protection Equipment) in the form of masks and/or gloves. While they are not a requirement in order to attend Sunday service, you are more than welcome to wear these items if they make you feel more comfortable. If you desire to wear a mask while attending but do not have your own, we can provide you with one. However, please be aware that our supply is limited.
- After reserving your space to attend a service, your household will have your own seating, 6 feet apart from the next household. The easiest way for us to make this happen is to use the reservation system to block out chairs for your family ahead of time. So, when you make a reservation you will need to let us know exactly how many people from your household will be attending.

- In order to reduce physical contact, we will not be producing or handing out any bulletins, flyers, or calendars at this time. There will also be a designated area where you can pick up giving envelopes, as well as a designated location for the giving. Giving online through myarcf.com or through text is still a good alternative.
- During this first phase of reopening, we ask that you keep your children with you and your household. The current state and local guidelines do not allow us to open up our children's ministry or childcare at this time. The playground will also be closed.
- All attendees to enter through the left front doors of the sanctuary, and exit through the right front doors. The doors will be marked "Entrance" and "Exit". This allows us to ensure proper counting and to control the flow of traffic as specified in the distancing requirements. Side doors will be locked for entry.
- One of the recommendations in the guidelines is to halt congregational singing. Please understand that we believe that it is important to praise to our Savior in song, so our worship team will continue to lead songs for worship. However, it will be limited to three songs at this time. The service itself will be approximately 1 hour long.
- A volunteer will be sanitizing frequently used areas on a regular basis. This includes door handles, sinks, toilet flush levers, etc. Fabric safe disinfectant spray will also be used on our chairs prior to the service.
- Coffee, water, and snacks will not be offered at this time. We do ask that once the service is over that you do not gather for conversation inside the building. Again, we know that this is not ideal as we are a social people and have so much to "catch up on". But we ask this to comply with state and local guidelines.

Things you should know:

- ARCF Employees and volunteers will have their temperature taken prior to starting their shift. We will do this using a contactless forehead thermometer.
- We will have bottles of hand sanitizer available for your use while on campus. At this time we have the pump style bottles.

Please understand that we are taking the responsibility of reopening our doors very seriously. We know that gathering together has the potential to raise the risk of spreading COVID-19. However, we believe that if we are vigilant and reopen our doors responsibly, we can begin to see even more of what God is doing, and plans to do as we move through this pandemic.

Thank you so much church family.

ARCF Staff