

**Rose Hill United Methodist Church**



## **Phase 1 Regathering Guidelines**

**June 10, 2020**

## INTRODUCTION

As we transition from online-only worship services to a hybrid of online and in-person gatherings, it will bring with it some important, and hopefully temporary, changes. Our Regathering Guidelines are based on the recommendations from Bishop Jones and the "Open Texas" Guidelines from the Texas Department of Health and Human Services. We encourage each member to honor the guidelines to protect the health of all the congregation.

We recognize that some people will simply not feel comfortable (at this time) attending worship services in person, and that is okay! Please make the decision that is best for you, and know that you will be honored and respected for your decision.

***Prior to attending any regathering, we ask all members to self-screen for illness. If you are sick or do not feel well, please stay home.***

## SMALL GROUPS ON CAMPUS

Beginning this Friday, June 12, the Fellowship Hall (entry, main dining area, and restrooms) and the Faith Center main sanctuary will be open to small groups. These two areas provide the most space for social distancing as well as the best air circulation, and minimizes the areas requiring sanitization. Meetings can be reserved by sending an email to [calendar@rosehillumc.org](mailto:calendar@rosehillumc.org). After using the space, groups are required to spray and wipe down all areas used with church-supplied disinfectant. Use of the Fellowship Hall by outside groups will be allowed on a case-by-case basis.

## IN-PERSON WORSHIP

We continue to plan for our in-person Homecoming Worship on Sunday, July 5. We will have two services, both in the Faith Center, at 9:00 AM and 11:00 AM.

- Seating in the Faith Center has been limited to honor 6 ft social distancing. When seated we ask that a minimum of 2 empty seats (~6 ft) remain between individual family groups.
- Music in worship will initially be limited to individual or small ensembles. Initially, congregational singing will not take place as per guidance from Bishop Jones.
- Every other pew will be "taped off" and not available for seating, i.e. there will be 9:00 AM rows and 11:00 AM rows.
- Items such as bulletins, communion trays, or offering baskets will not be utilized during the service.
- Communion kits will be placed on a table near the entrance of the sanctuary. Please dispose of used packets as you leave.
- An offering box will be placed at the rear of the sanctuary. We continue to recommend the use of online giving.
- The Cry Room remains open during service, but limited to two parents at a time.
- Continue to maintain social distancing while exiting the building.

## SAFETY PRECAUTIONS

- Social Distancing. We ask everyone, out of love for one-another, to honor 6 ft. distancing. Other practices such as shaking hands, hugging or any other contact that does not honor the 6 ft. distancing recommendation should be avoided.
- Sanitization.
  - Everyone is asked to use hand sanitizer or wash their hands when they arrive. Hand sanitizer will be available at the entrances of Fellowship Hall and Faith Center.
  - Frequently touched surfaces (i.e. door handles, restrooms, countertops) will be sanitized between worship services.
  - Pews will be designated 9:00 AM and 11:00 AM service and will be cleaned by the contract cleaning crew during the week prior to the next service.
- **After using a small group designated space, groups are required to spray and wipe down all areas used with church-supplied disinfectant.**
- Water fountains will include signage “Do not use the water fountain”. If you require water during the service, it should be brought in a sealed container.
- Bathrooms will be open, but people are encouraged to utilize a paper towel when touching door handles. Upon exiting, hand sanitizing is encouraged.
- Masks. In all buildings, masks are recommended, but not required.
- Coffee service and water fountains are closed.
- Volunteers will be stationed at every door for welcoming and for the door to be propped open to reduce multiple contact with the door handles.
- Childcare will not be provided as we commence regathering, and children should remain near their parents while on campus.
- Covid-19 reminders from the Texas Department Health and Human Services will be posted in all corridors and bathrooms in the Fellowship Hall and Faith Center.

## AT-RISK INDIVIDUALS

The “at-risk” population, as identified by the Texas Department of Health and Human Services, are those who are 65 or older, especially those with chronic lung disease; moderate to severe asthma; chronic heart disease; severe obesity; diabetes; chronic kidney disease undergoing dialysis; liver disease; or weakened immune system. If you fall into one of these categories, you should consider continuing worshipping online.

***Prior to attending any regathering, we ask all members to self-screen for illness. If you are sick or do not feel well, please stay home.***

## IF YOU TEST POSITIVE FOR THE COVID-19 VIRUS

- Seek immediate medical attention as directed by your primary care physician.
- Notify the church at (281) 351-5356 or [office@rosehillumc.org](mailto:office@rosehillumc.org) so that notification can be made to possible infected persons, i.e. contact tracing.
- If a positive case is recorded, Rosehill UMC is required to report to the District Superintendent with the Texas Annual Conference.

# COVID-19: What to Do



Stay **6 feet away** from all people not in your household.



Wash hands often for **20 seconds** and encourage others to do the same.



When soap and water aren't available, use hand sanitizer with at least **60% alcohol**.



Please **wear a face covering**.  
Cover coughs and sneezes with a disposable tissue.



**Avoid touching** your eyes, nose, and mouth with unwashed hands.



**Disinfect surfaces**, buttons, handles, knobs and other places touched often.



**Stay away** from people who are sick.

**COVID-19**  
COVID-19: WHAT TO DO 2020



updated 05/21/20  
4:00 pm

For updates and more information, visit [dshs.texas.gov/coronavirus](https://dshs.texas.gov/coronavirus).

Dial:  **211** or: Visit: [211texas.org](https://211texas.org)

COVID-19 Mental Health Support Line:  
**1.833.986.1919**