

## **CBCGB REOPENING PLAN (Rev 11.1)** (Revised February 12th, 2021)

Re-opening our church is a joint effort by our Elders, Deacons, Pastoral Staff, Medical Advisory Team, Ministry Leaders, and Reopening Task Force. We are taking a phased approach informed by several factors:

- Safety is paramount;
- Care for the spiritual, physical, and mental well-being of members, coworkers, and community;
- Compliance with federal, state, and local government guidelines.

Working with medical professionals within the CBCGB community, we have determined key milestones to mark the transition from one phase to another.

As we begin re-opening, we stress two key precautions:

- First: medical (surgical) masks, hand hygiene, and physical distance are paramount.
- Second: personal responsibility in disinfecting the surrounding environment is helpful.

Proper attitude:

- Vigilant about COVID-19
- Ready to respond to new changes

We will carefully monitor the pandemic situation and revise our protocols and procedures accordingly. Our goal is to serve our congregation and community throughout each phase of the re-opening, using both in-person and online methods that maximize safety and effectiveness.

### **RE-OPENING PHASES AND TIMELINE**

Our current re-opening plan has four phases. However, this plan may change as the CDC or state and local government agencies provide new information, guidelines, and protocols. Please keep in mind that some churches and civic organizations will re-open at different rates than will CBCGB. We have laid out a process we believe most suits the needs of our congregation.

**PLANNING (CBCGB Phase 0):** From May 18, 2020, until August 7, 2020.

- All ministries continue operating online-only.
- All buildings remain closed to the public.
- Limited staff will be allowed to work on campus.

**START (CBCGB Phase I):** Starting from August 8, 2020, we will initiate this phase after observing no resurgence in the number of new cases for at least 3 weeks following Massachusetts Phase 3 re-opening.

- Continue online services for worship and other ministry meetings.
- Limited staff will be allowed to work on campus.
- People in high-risk groups are discouraged from returning to church campuses for their health and safety.

The following activities will be subject to applicable church, state, and local government guidelines, and require preregistration through the CBCGB office if the activities are held at CBCGB properties.

- Brothers and sisters may attend online Sunday worship outdoors in smaller size groups (outside on church grounds, members' backyards, etc.).
- Small groups have the option of continuing to meet online, meeting outside on church grounds, or in spaces off CBCGB property.
- Special events: weddings, memorial services, and small size group meetings inside the church buildings will be considered on a case-by-case basis.
- Worship coworkers can use church facilities to prepare for Sunday services.

**CAUTIOUS and SAFE Progress (CBCGB Phase II):** Starting from March 1<sup>st</sup>, 2021, we will resume additional church activity operations with restrictions and capacity limits.

- Continue online services for worship and other ministry meetings.
- Three-step approach to worship in-person:
  - Step one: No more than 8 people in sanctuary: Preacher/Presider/AVs/Supports.
  - Step two: No more than 12 people in sanctuary: Preacher/Presider/Worship Team/AVs/Supports.
  - Step three: No more than 25 people in sanctuary: Preacher/Presider/Worship Team/AVs/Supports/additional congregants.

\*number of on-site support staff (outside of sanctuary) are not counted in each of above, will be on an as-needed basis and subject to BOD guideline limitation.
- Some groups (such as caring groups and fellowship groups) may continue to meet on campus following the BOD special event guideline.
- People in high-risk groups are continuously encouraged to worship online for their health and safety.

**VIGILANT (CBCGB Phase III):** Timing to be determined.

- Continue online services and in-person worship with a limited capacity.
- Campus gatherings for a larger but limited number of participants, within approved guidelines.
- Additional processes for limited gatherings will be added as necessary.
- There will be additional limitations for high-risk populations.

**NEW NORM (CBCGB Phase IV):** Timing to be determined, depending on the availability of a vaccine.

- Fully open all campus buildings, services, and ministries.
- Online services continue to be an option.
- Be vigilant on behalf of people in high-risk groups when returning to church campuses.