

PROCEDURES FOR OUTDOOR SERVICES AT MOUNT OAK FELLOWSHIP

(AS OF 6-7-2020)

As of June 7, 2020, Prince George's County is in in modified Phase 1 of reopening as determined by the State of Maryland. This allows us to implement outside worship options as we continue to provide online services. We want to share the following information with you in preparation for Mount Oak starting outside services Saturday, June 13 and Sunday, June 14.

1. Our indoor sanctuaries are and will continue to be closed for worship services until further notice. We will monitor State of Maryland laws, Prince George's County guidelines, conference guidelines, and our own Re-Opening Well committee recommendations to determine when we can start services indoors.
2. **We will continue to post our worship services on our YouTube channel, website, and Facebook pages even when the present crisis has passed.**
3. The plan below is for the next two weekends (June 13-14 and 20-21). We will be reviewing the policy and making adjustments as needed to improve the services; any changes will be announced.
4. On the next two weekends we will be holding contemporary worship services on Saturday evening at 6:33 pm (Matthew 6:33; Seek ye first, the Kingdom of God...) and traditional worship services at 9:30 am. **Please allow extra time for arrival as we get used to the new procedures.**
5. Both services will be held with the following seating options: seating under the pavilion (limited), seating in the lawn, or seating in your car around the pavilion.
6. Every person attending services must sit six feet apart but families may sit together. Social distancing of 6 feet (shoulder to shoulder and front to back) will be maintained between people and/or family units. A "family" is designated as people living together in the same home.
7. **Seating under the pavilion will be limited to about 20 people including the video tech.** Locations for chairs will be designated (though a family may sit closer together). If you need to sit under the pavilion, please contact the church office or Facilities Manager Kevin Kauffman (301-922-2138) before 9:00 am on Saturday, and we will reserve space for you.
8. **Seating on the lawn will be open.** Social distancing must be practiced as prescribed in point 6.
9. **Seating in your car.** Parking spaces around the South and West of the pavilion will be reserved for those who choose to worship from their car.
10. Children's Ministry is still not meeting in person at this time. Children should remain with their families. Children's Director Shirletta Butler is preparing packets for them to work on or color during both services. She will email them out to those on her current distribution list. You may print it out in advance, or pick one up from a table near the entrance to the lawn. Please bring your own crayons or pencils. For more information or to be added to the email distribution for this, email shirletta@mtoak.org.
11. Upon arrival - Lawn and pavilion seating:
 - **Bring your own chair or blanket for seating, water bottle, hand-sanitizer, mask, sunscreen, and Bible.** You may bring an umbrella for shade if desired. If you are unable to bring a chair due to physical limitations, please contact the church office or Facilities Manager Kevin Kauffman (301-922-2138) before 9:00 am on Saturday.
 - Park further away from the pavilion, as directed by parking attendants. Those with Disability tags or placards may park closer to the pavilion as directed.

- Face masks are necessary arriving and departing. They are not necessary while seated outside with proper social distancing Based on guidance from the State of Maryland, everyone over age 9 is required to have a mask (please let us know if you have a health condition that prevents that), and children ages 2-9 should wear one if they are able.
 - Follow signs for the correct entrance location for either the pavilion or the lawn
 - Pavilion seating will be guided by ushers with social distancing
 - Lawn seating will be self-directed using social distancing
12. Upon arrival - Drive-in seating:
- A parking attendant will show you to a parking spot
 - Tune in to 90.7 on your FM radio
 - Windows may be down. No mask needed
13. Singing -Singing is very important to Christian worship but there is uncertainty as to whether or not it is appropriate to do at this time. At Mount Oak we encourage each of you to decide whether or not you will sing during worship, but we want to offer the following directives.
- Singing is protracted speech. You do not have to sing, but if you do sing, sing no more loudly than you would if you were speaking. In addition, do not exert yourself by taking deep breaths. Sing quietly and from your heart to the Lord, like a mother humming a lullaby.
 - If you sit under the pavilion and choose to sing, we require that you wear a mask while singing. According to CDC standards this may be unnecessary but we want to err on the side of informed caution.
 - Words to the songs will be posted on Fridays at mtoak.org/events (click on the event listing for the service you are attending).
14. Communion – Communion is essential to Christian worship. We are planning on offering Communion on June 20th and 21st. Pre-packaged communion packets will be given to everyone when they arrive for worship.
15. Upon departure – Lawn and pavilion seating:
- Maintain social distancing
 - Take all your belongings and trash with you
 - Everyone should follow the directions of the parking attendants.
16. Other considerations:
- Use your bathroom before coming. If needed, bathrooms will be open on a limited basis.
 - indoor water fountains will not be available
 - Take your temperature at home. If your temperature is 100.4 F or higher, or have other symptoms of being sick (cough, sore throat, shortness of breath, diarrhea, etc.) or have been in contact with someone who has coronavirus or highly suspected of being positive, stay home.
 - An offering will not be taken during the service. There will be locked offering boxes available for those who choose to bring their offering. You may, of course, continue to give online or by mail.

Please note: It is your responsibility to ensure your health and that of your family. If someone is ill or of compromised health, please be sure that they stay home. All of us helping one another will ensure we remain as healthy as possible.