

Dear Bridge Fellowship ~

Grace and peace to you all from God the Father, through our Lord Jesus Christ.

*"Consider it all joy, my brethren, when you encounter various trials, knowing that the testing of your faith produces endurance. And let endurance have its perfect result, so that you may be perfect and complete, lacking in nothing" (James 1:2-4).*

I want to personally thank you all for your patient endurance over these long and difficult months. While we still face a world of uncertainty, we have prayerfully decided that one uncertainty must go: that is the uncertainty of assembly! **We have prayerfully decided to re-opening the building for indoor services, beginning THIS SUNDAY, September 27.** Below is some important information you will need to be fully aware of prior to coming this Sunday. Please read it through, understanding that these guidelines are not what anyone wants, but what we believe we must adhere to as we meet together, at least in the short-term.

#### **SERVICE OPTIONS:**

We will continue to offer online "Livestreaming" services every Sunday morning at 8:30AM; that recorded service will be up immediately following first service. We will also be open for our Midweek services, beginning Wednesday, Sept 30, at 6:30pm, Under the same guidelines as below. *We strongly urge those who feel more comfortable or safe at home, and/or anyone who falls within the defined "high risk" category, to continue joining us online for the time being. (Be sure to subscribe to our YouTube page, the Bridge Christian Fellowship Whidbey Island).*

#### **WHEN:**

This SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 27, 8:30AM (doors open at 8am) AND 10:45AM (doors open at 10:15am)

First Midweek evening service back in the building, WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 30, 6:30PM (doors open at 6pm)

#### **BEFORE COMING** (and for the sake of your brothers and sisters):

Please self-screen for signs & symptoms of COVID-19

If you, or someone in your household, has a fever of 100.4 (etc.) please do not attend services in person.

Feel free to bring your own coffee/tea – no drinks/refreshments will be served or be available at our indoor services.

Masks/Face-Coverings will be required inside the building at all times, except when taking communion, so be sure to bring them (we will have masks/shields for those who don't have one but the supply is limited)

#### **UPON ARRIVAL:**

Doors will be open 30 minutes before each service

The only accessible entrance will be the main entrance into the main foyer. All other side-doors to the building will be locked from the outside.

Masks/Face-Coverings will be required for entry into the building (*feel free to rip 'em off your face as soon as you exit the building!*)

Both outside and inside doors will be propped open to provide for "contact-less" entry/exit

Sanitation stations will be available in the main foyer and in the sanctuary

#### **HOW:**

##### CAPACITY

In Phase 3: churches are allowed to have an "indoor maximum capacity of 50%, or 400 people, whichever is less" ~ our bldg. capacity is 500, so 250 is the number, although, we're not counting! If we find we're going over 250 per service, we'll add a third service to accommodate. Sadly, for now, we do not have the option of overflow into rooms or gathering areas such as the multipurpose or fireside rooms: these will remain closed for now.

##### MASKS/FACE-COVERINGS

Each person in attendance shall wear a suitable face covering while in the building. We've been asked if we are going to "police" this; our response is let's just NOT go there! If you are unable to, or even opposed to wearing a face covering as we gather, we ask that you connect via Live-stream for the time-being.

##### PHYSICAL DISTANCING (Yes, we know this is an oxymoron for fellowship, but view it as a temporary inconvenience).

We will encourage a minimum of 6 ft separation between all people.

Seating has already been spread out to encourage distancing; for now, we ask that you *only sit with people of your immediate household*, leaving room in-between seats for distancing.

##### COMMUNION

We will continue to offer the pre-packaged bread & juice cups we've been using

##### CHILDRENS MINISTRY

We will continue to provide Children's Ministry for kids 4 years of age through 3rd grade.

4th Grade and up will be in the sanctuary with parents.

We will have extra face shields for children who cannot or prefer not to wear "masks"

Please stay home if your child experiences ANY symptoms of illness, especially fevers and respiratory

Recordings of weekly Children's Bible studies will continue to be provided on the Bridge YouTube channel

For your safety, Classrooms will be cleaned/sanitized prior to Sunday service.

##### STUDENT MINISTRY

Manifest (High School) and Ignite (Middle School) will begin meeting indoors, in the Sanctuary, Tuesday evenings at 6:30pm, with all the same guidelines beginning Tuesday September 29<sup>th</sup>, 6:30pm

##### OTHER MINISTRIES

We will communicate other ministries and Bible studies as they become available.

##### RESTROOMS

Access to restrooms will be limited to no more than 3 people, maximum, at a time

#### **AFTER SERVICE**

We kindly request that you not congregate in the foyer before or after the service for the time being (*feel free to do so outside!*)

Do your best to keep a sense of distance as you exit

Pack-out whatever you pack-in

WE NEED VOLUNTEERS! If you would like to help out with any of the orchestration of all this, please contact Ijeva at the Bridge Office: (360) 544-3194 or [admin@tbcfwa.org](mailto:admin@tbcfwa.org)

Again, THANK YOU for your continued patience and understanding! We love you all, and are looking forward to assembling back together in the building.

In Jesus,

Rick