

EMANUEL CONGREGATION COVID OPERATING GUIDLEINES UPDATE – September 9, 2021

The Emanuel Congregation COVID-19 Task Force regularly meets and reviews our current operating procedures, along with data from the CDC and Illinois Department of Public Health. If you have questions, please reach out to the Emanuel office at 773.561.5173 or info@emanuelcong.org.

Most recent updates are in **bold blue**:

Beginning June 15th (Meetings and Appointments)

We can begin hosting meetings (that do need to be streamed) beginning June 15th. If you would like to schedule a time for a meeting, please contact the office.

For anyone who has Temple business and needs to come into the office, please contact the Emanuel office to schedule a date and time. This will allow us to control the number of people in the building and ensure we are available to help you. (See safety requirements below.)

Beginning August 1st (Worship Services and Programs)

For all worship services, congregational or general programs, we are working to be in person, with live streaming, beginning August 1 at a capacity of 100 people. (See safety requirements below.)

As of September, Emanuel Congregation is following city of Chicago recommendations for indoor seating capacity which is currently at full capacity. All congregants attending in-person services or events are required to wear a face mask that covers the nose and mouth at all times.

We are working as diligently as possible to enhance our streaming capabilities to continue to keep our virtual doors open so that all worship and programming being held within the physical building will continue in a digital format when possible.

Guidelines and What to Expect for Visiting the building and outdoor events:

The building will continue to follow stringent entrance and safety procedures which include:

- All individuals are required to wear facemasks that completely covers the nose and mouth while in the building.
- We strongly encourage adults who have not been immunized to continue to join us virtually until they can be immunized.
- You will be asked to complete a COVID questionnaire when you enter the building to reduce exposure to anyone in the building. The questionnaire will include questions such as "have you run a fever in the last 48 hours", have you traveled in the last 14 days". An electronic version will be available to complete in advance.

- If you have any symptoms, (cough, cold, sneezing, fever, etc) do not attend in person events. Please stay home and call your doctor if symptoms worsen.
- There will be a partition at the front desk of the office. This is in place to protect our staff, and our visitors. Please do not come further into the office without permission. This allows us to control the number of people in office space for safety reasons.
- One person in the bathroom at a time. Please use the downstairs restrooms only.
- Events taking place outside will follow the state guidelines.
- Seating will be modified to maintain physical distancing, which may determine the location of where worship, events, meetings are held (e.g. Lederer Hall, Dannenberg South, etc.)
- There will be no eating in the building for Emanuel events. For example, we will not be hosting onegs. Share Shabbats will only be hosted outside. We will notify all registered guests and community members if the event is cancelled due to weather.
- Guests need to bring their own tallit and kippah. Prayer books will be available to use and safely stored after use.

We will also follow these guidelines if the clergy are officiating at a lifecycle event at a different location, such as a funeral or wedding.

These guidelines will stay in effect until new information has been released by the Governor, CDC, or health officials. We look forward to the opportunity to be in person with all of you again. Until then, know that we are doing everything we can to keep our community (congregants, staff and visitors) safe and connected.

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