

Rev. Dr. Roosevelt Hughes, Jr., Sr. Pastor

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# Returning to physical church building plan

The Covid-19 pandemic has pushed a pause button on the way many believers and John Street Baptist Church normally operates. It's as if our Lord has used this time to say, "Be still and listen. I want to do something new and magnificent."

On Monday May 18, 2020, Governor Charlie Baker authorized that churches can reopen at 40% capacity as long as they adhered to guidelines put in place by the commonwealth. We have determined that our capacity at this time is 38 people.

## Cleaning and sanitizing to keep everyone safe

#### Before Return to Building

- Before guests arrive, Protocols have been implemented to reduce the spread of the virus within the church as the virus is not eradicated.
- Performed a deep-cleaning of church building by Cleaning Ministry before anyone allowed back inside.
- Weekly cleaning planned ongoing using cleaning protocols that have been developed by Cleaning Ministry.

#### **During Service**

- Downstairs and Dexter Hall will be closed and unavailable.
- One direction for entrance from main door and exit through the side door with doors opened when possible.
- No-touch hand sanitizer stations at entrance and exit, if on back order we will have a single person on either end to use gloved and dispense sanitizer.
- We will perform thermo non-contact temperature check for every person entering, need to be under 100.3 degrees, no exceptions!
- Each person entering must wear a face mask per government mandate; if they do not have one, we will provide one at no cost.
- No church bulletins will be provided at this time.
- Cleaning Ministry will perform wiping down high-volume areas like doorknobs, railings and bathrooms continuously.

## Worship services

#### Traditional inside the church

- Start time will be 10:30am on Sundays
- Hymnals or Bibles have been removed from the back of the pews
- There will be no "Love Time" (time where we socialize normally during service)
- There will be no Praise Team singing during service, however, we will have music by Organist
- Children's Church and Sunday School will be suspended indefinitely at this time
- Seating has been sectioned off to ensure 6 feet social distancing
- Donations can be made online via the website, mail to PO Box 2696, Worcester MA 01613-2696 or donation box located within the church building.
- At the conclusion of service, all attendees are asked to adhere to social distancing and to promptly exit building to allow the Cleaning Ministry to clean.

### Digitally – Live via Facebook

- This is not the end of online worship services. Even as restrictions are lifted, we are months away from the full resumption of typical worship gatherings (full seating capacity, kids, etc.).
- JSBC Live will remain in place and available to those who continue to worship outside the walls
  of JSBC.
- Our website <u>www.atjsbc.com</u> will be used to keep public informed of any changes