

SBCOD Church Re-Opening Procedure



Dear SBCOD Family & Friends,

Praise God! We are finally at a point where we feel that we can resume in-person worship services at SBCOD on a limited basis with the right precautions in place. It's been a really long time since we could gather together in fellowship, encouraging one another as we sing praises to the risen Lord.

We have made the decision to resume public in-person worship beginning Sunday September 20th at 10:30am. This date is also National Back To Church Sunday. There has been much prayer, meditation, and discussion as to how to execute this opening. We do not take lightly the dangers associated with COVID-19 or its contagious nature. But we also trust that with proper precautions we are able to worship together.

If you do decide to come to worship at church, we ask you to abide by the safety precautions we are putting into place for everyone's benefit. These recommendations follow the guidelines of the CDC for churches who wish to reopen. We have used these guidelines as part of our decisions during this pandemic and view these precautions as an act of love and out of concern for others in attendance.

The Pennsylvania Department of Health and Center for Disease and Control recommends during this current phase that no gathering more than 25 people take place. As followers of Jesus Christ it is important that we have a Godly witness to our community by following the regulations that others are asked to uphold as well.

RE-OPENING GUIDELINES

Sunday Worship Service

SBCOD will be open for public worship beginning on Sunday, Sept. 20. We will provide one Worship Service each Sunday at 10:30am with reserved seating required. Occupancy will be based on social distancing guidelines, which will significantly reduce normal seating capacity to only 25 persons. Bible Studies & Ministry Meetings will only meet using Zoom or Teleconference.

We Expect You To Make A Good Health Decision

If you are experiencing COVID-related symptoms or feel uncomfortable participating in public worship at this time, please know that it is fine to stay home and worship with us Online. We encourage you to take advantage of our Livestream Online Service each Sunday at 10:30AM by

going to our Church Website (Sbcod.org) or the Second Baptist Church of Doylestown Facebook page.

Reserved Seating

Occupancy will be based on social distancing guidelines, which will significantly reduce normal seating capacity to only 25 persons. To accommodate this, we are requesting that you reserve your seat in advance. Registration will open on Monday, Sept 14th. To register, click [here](#) or visit our website [sbcod.org](#). If you do not have access to a computer, call the church office at 215 766-7650. Online seat registration will OPEN on the Monday before the Sunday church service. Registration will CLOSE when either the capacity has been reached or Friday at 11:59pm.

Parking, Building Entrance & Exit

Upon arriving at the church please allow 2 parking spaces between cars. For everyone's safety, SBCOD will have one designated entrance and exit. Upon arrival, everyone will use the front entrance to access the church. Prior to entering the facility, everyone's temperature will be taken with a non-touch thermometer. An usher will then escort you to your reserved seating. Social Distancing will be achieved by limiting where attendees are able to sit. We will be utilizing alternating pews and ushers will be guiding you to locations that are appropriate. This may mean you will have to sit in a location that is out of your 'normal' position; please be understanding and positive. Church bulletins will not be used. At the conclusion of service, the assigned exit will be the through the main front door.

Face Masks

As suggested by the CDC and PA Department of Health, face masks will be required at all times in the church facility. All seating is social distance sensitive.

Offering

Limiting Contact with items and people is a measure we will encourage by having everyone use the provided hand sanitizers on their way into our facility. We will no longer have a special time to collect your Tithes & Offerings. A Tithes & Offering box is located at the back on the Sanctuary. Please put your offering in the box either before or after service. Offering envelopes will be provided by Ushers. You can also use our online giving system on the church website if you so desire. Hymnals and Pew Bibles have been removed to avoid contact. Please bring your own bible or use your digital device bible.

Communion

Holy Communion will be offered the First Sunday of each Month. In order for us to do this safely, prior to entering the sanctuary please pick up your enclosed communion wafer & juice from the Deaconess table in the foyer. At the end of the service please place your used communion kit in the trash receptacle in the foyer.

Nursery & Children's Ministry

The Nursery will not be available and there will be no Children's Ministry provided onsite at this time. Until we resume our normal programming, children are welcome to attend and sit with their family members. In the meantime, our Children and Youth Departments will continue to provide online options.

Facility Utilization & Cleanliness

We are limiting and restricting access to all areas of the church except the sanctuary, foyer and hallways leading to and from the sanctuary. No one should enter classrooms, the fellowship hall, or kitchen areas. The restrooms closest to the sanctuary are available for usage however it would be helpful for our cleaning staff if you can use your home restroom prior to attending church. If you must use the church restroom, please be sure to follow CDC guidelines for handwashing.

All main areas of the church will be sanitized before each service. This will include disinfecting handrails, switches, door handles, etc., as well as spraying seats and disinfecting all bathrooms. As it pertains to air quality, our air conditioning system and air handlers enable us to replace the sanctuary air many times per hour, while introducing fresh, outside air into the building.

Public Fellowship Social Distancing

We understand the desire to fellowship, however we would respectfully request that upon arrival at church you would go directly into the sanctuary and avoid lingering in the foyer. We would also ask that everyone exercise appropriate social distancing in the parking lot upon your arrival and departure.

THANK YOU

These measures are aimed to allow us the opportunity to publicly worship together. We are asking you to remain patient and flexible as we to serve our whole family of faith and care for every one's physical and spiritual needs. We hope to see you soon, in person or online. No matter your personal decision to attend physically or virtually, let us rejoice at the hearing of the Word of God! As the Psalmist encourages us, "Shout with joy to God, all the earth! Sing the glory of his name; make his praise glorious! (Psalm 66:1-2)

What A Mighty God We Serve,
Rev. Dr. Robert E. Hamlin Sr., Senior Pastor
SBCOD Re-Opening Committee