

## **NEW HEMPSTEAD PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH COVID-19 REOPENING SAFETY PLAN SUMMARY (ver. 09/29/2021)**

This summary sheet gives an overview of the policies and practices that New Hempstead Presbyterian Church will use going forward for in-person, outdoor and indoor church activities. The complete document may be found in the church office. This guidance has been designed to meet current New York State Dept. of Health and CDC guidelines (as of September 29, 2021). Please note that this information has been updated and replaces the August 23, 2021 plan version.

### **A. PHYSICAL DISTANCING**

- Sunday church services will be held outdoors, weather permitting until mid-October when it gets too cold to do so. Then services will move into the Sanctuary.
- Individuals may choose to wear a mask outside. When worshipping indoors, wearing a mask is required. Social distancing is not mandated either outdoors or indoors. If conditions change we will follow masking and distancing guidance provided by federal, state and/or local government.
- Congregational singing is allowed at services held outdoors but singers are required to wear a mask when doing so. Congregational singing is not allowed at services held indoors.
- Instrumental music and small group singing (solo, duet, trio maximum) is permitted with proper masking and social distancing required both inside and outside.
- During worship, children shall remain seated with their family for the entire service, except when attending Sunday School.
- The service will be live-streamed on YouTube.

### **B. PROTECTIVE EQUIPMENT (PPE)/PROTOCOLS**

- Masks are available upon request.
- Single-use bulletins will be available for use then discarded after the service.
- Communion will be offered during in-person worship using individually wrapped elements. Masks may be removed to receive the elements but should be replaced immediately when finished.
- The collection plate will be stationary at the greeter's table; contributions may be deposited there before/after worship.
- Passing of the Peace will be non-contact, using appropriate hand gestures and words of greeting.
- A coffee hour after service is permitted, both outside and inside. Buffet style is not permitted; Individuals hosting the coffee hour will serve participants.

### **C. HYGIENE AND CLEANING**

- Hand sanitizer will be available for use at the usher table and in the Colonial Room.
- Bathrooms will have hand soap and paper towels for hand-washing.
- Areas including the sanctuary, Colonial Room, the bathrooms and frequently touched surfaces will be thoroughly cleaned/disinfected.
- Microphones will be cleaned/disinfected after each use.

### **D. COMMUNICATION**

- Signage reminding people of the importance of good hand hygiene and other ways to reduce the spread of disease will be posted in all facilities.
- If there is inclement weather on Sunday morning, an outdoor service will move to an indoor and live-streamed event.
- Notification of a change or cancellation of the service will be accomplished via an email blast, phone contact and/or message on the church office's answering machine.