

May 27, 2020

Dearest Church Family and Friends,

We are excited to announce that Governor Newsom and the Kern County Department of Health has given churches the approval to reopen starting this weekend and **Crossroads Community Church will be holding services!**

We know you are eager to return to church, as are we, however, we recognize going “back to normal” won’t look anything like it did and it will take time to figure out what the “new normal” will be. As we plan for short and long term future goals, we will continue to follow the guidelines, requirements and recommendations set forth by the Governor and health officials in order to ensure the health and safety of our church family in a Christ-honoring way. This link will take you to the specific document outlining the guidance for places of worship and we encourage everyone to read it. <https://covid19.ca.gov/pdf/guidance-places-of-worship.pdf> .

According to the Health Department document, these changes will be in effect for the first 21 days at which time the California Department of Public Health will evaluate the impact and provide further directions.

This letter will outline the basic requirements and help prepare you for what to expect when you arrive. We thank you all in advance for your prayers, patience and compassion as we all navigate this new and unusual season together!

**SERVICE TIMES**: Attendance is limited to 25% of building capacity or a maximum of 100 people at each service, whichever is less. We are prepared to have 100 seats available at each service. Therefore we will offer the following service options: **SEATING WILL BE ON A FIRST COME FIRST SERVED BASIS**

* **Saturday 5:30pm**. We will also continue to live stream this service and post it to YouTube and Facebook for those who wish to continue watching from home or must continue practicing shelter in place due to high risk.
* **Sunday 9**:**00 & 10:45am**. To offer the most people an option to come to church we will host two services on Sunday morning. Sunday School classes are postponed.
* **Promiseland** will be temporarily closed during this transition time. The 10:45 service on Sunday will serve families with children. Children are welcome to sit with their family downstairs.
* **The Library** will be temporarily closed.

It is recommended that those who are 65 or older or have health conditions that put them at risk to consider viewing services at home on our website, [www.crossroads-ridgecrest.org](http://www.crossroads-ridgecrest.org), our app or live on Facebook. DVDs of the message as well as bulletins, sermon notes, study guides and other resources will continue to be available in the **Resource Box** in front of the church office.

If you or anyone in your household is sick, has a fever, cough or other COVID19 symptom, or if you have been exposed to someone who has please stay home. If you begin to feel ill during service, please notify Connections immediately.

**WHEN YOU ARRIVE:** The following changes are based on Health Department guidelines.

* Please wear a face mask when entering, during and when leaving church. CDC recommends infants – two years do NOT wear masks.
* Your temperature will be taken upon entering the building.
* Please wash hands frequently and thoroughly (20 seconds). Hand sanitizer will be available throughout the sanctuary.
* Practice physical distancing of at least 6 feet.
  + Families who have been together can sit together.
  + Please refrain from hugging or shaking hands.
* **Coffee and Doughnuts** will temporarily be unavailable.
* To minimize exposure and risk to you and your family, we will have bulletins available at several counters or will have one person handing them out.

**SOCIALIZING:** In an effort to adhere to the guidelines we’ve been given and ensure the health and safety of our church family, we will have someone assist in finding a seat as you enter the church. In addition, we kindly encourage people to exit the building as soon as possible when service is over. The double doors leading to the patio will be opened for an additional exit and you are welcome to visit outside while maintaining proper distancing. This will also give us time to disinfect between services as required.

**OFFICE HOURS:** The office will remain closed the week of June 1 – June 5. After our first open weekend of services we will evaluate and post office hours and availability. We are still available by phone at 760-384-3333 and 760-301-4840 as well as email [www.ccc@ccc-rc.org](http://www.ccc@ccc-rc.org) or the website.

**LIFE GROUPS:** We will continue to offer the web-based meeting tool, ZOOM to life groups who prefer to meet electronically for now. If you are interested in a ZOOM group please call the office.

**CONNECTIONS AND CARE NEEDS:**

The Connections Counter will now be located at the coffee counter. If you need information, prayer requests or would like to sign up to volunteer, connect in a life group or get access to FREE on-line resources through RightNow Media, we will have a volunteer with a laptop to assist you.

Again, we are so excited to see you and are doing all we can to keep our church safe and healthy. We understand the challenging nature of this situation and appreciate your help as we all “consider others as more important than yourself” Philippians 2:3-4.

In Christ,

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