WestGate Church
Re-gathering Plan

Finny Abraham | Local Compassion Pastor

Board of Supervisors Special Hearing
June 8, 2020
Saratoga Campus
Saturdays: 5PM + 6:40PM
Sundays: 9:30AM + 11:15AM

South Hills Campus
Sundays: 9:30am + 11:15am
Re-gathering Guiding Principles

- The health & safety of worshipers, their families & our community

- Follow CDC, state & local government guidance
Re-gathering Safety Actions

- Promote healthy hygiene practices
- Promote social distancing
- Limit community sharing of worship materials
- Train staff & volunteers on safety actions
- Intensify cleaning, disinfection & ventilation
- Facilities management
Current Concerns & Future Considerations
Re-gathering Roadblock

Current Limitations

- Cap of 100 people per gathering
- Restricted indoor meetings

Request to Proceed

- Percentage occupancy gatherings
- Safely gather following CDC & government guidelines based on size of building
Re-gathering Community Impact
QUESTIONNAIRE RELATING TO THE ECONOMIC RECOVERY PHASES OF COVID-19 AND PLANS, GUIDELINES, AND NEEDS RELATIVE TO THE SAFE OPENING OF BUSINESSES AND OTHER INSTITUTIONS

Company/Organization Name: WestGate Church
Industry/Sector: Church - Non Profit
Date: June 7, 2020

1. Are you open or partially open? Yes
   a. Are you an essential business? Yes
   b. Are you open under an exception such as:
      i. Outdoor Business? N/A
      ii. Pickup/Delivery? N/A
      iii. Curbside Retail? N/A
      iv. Food Distribution? Yes
   c. Have employees and customers cooperated with the health safety protocols? Yes
   d. To your knowledge, have employees or customers become infected with COVID-19? No known infections of staff or congregants.

2. How many of your activities can be moved outdoors?
   1. small group gatherings (up to 20 people)
   2. youth activities (up to 100 people)
   3. community services (as many depending on need)
   4. mid group gatherings (up to 100 people)

3. For indoor activities:
   a. How can social distancing be maintained at points of ingress and egress, where people normally cluster?
      1. one way directional flow in and out.
      2. seating spaced to allow for proper distancing/households can sit together.
      3. Remove all commonly touched materials
      4. Limit access to restrooms/limit washbasins, toilets for spacing.
b. How can employees and visitors be protected from transmission of the virus (e.g., no-touch temperature checks, hand sanitizer, masks, and face shields)? *Please refer to already presented protocols (attached below)*

c. How will Personal Protective Equipment (such as face covering and gloves) and hand sanitizer be provided before entry? *All staff will be required to wear protective equipment. Guests will have access to sanitizer upon entry and are required to have face protection.*

d. Can the times of activities be staggered to reduce the amount of people gathered at any one time? *Yes.*

e. Can customers make appointments to gain entry while inside capacity is restricted? *A reservation system is currently in place.*

f. How can social distancing be maintained inside your premises? *Posted signs will refer to proper distancing as well as limiting seating w/ space per capacity allowed.*

4. What is your plan to acquire and distribute Personal Protective Equipment (like masks and gloves) and testing to your employees?

*We have already acquired PPE for staff.*

5. How can you adapt to accommodate different size gatherings that may be allowed by the Public Health officer? (Smaller gatherings are likely to be allowed before very large ones.)

*Already answered w/in provided protocols*

6. To meet the need for possible contact tracing, how would you maintain lists of employees and visitors with their contact information for contact tracing? (It is understood that lists of attendees would only be provided in the event of an infection that needed to be traced, and then only to public health personnel trained in medical confidentiality.)
We keep records of all small group to mid sized group gatherings. However this is Personally Identifiable Information (PII) and is restricted by the California Consumer Privacy Act (CCPA) to be distributed w/out the individual’s knowledge of how their information will be used and their agreement to distribute.

7. In order to assist safe and productive re-opening, what are your needs relative to:
   a. Regulation? N/A
   b. Licensure? N/A
   c. Childcare? N/A
   d. Housing? N/A
   e. Digital Inclusion? N/A
   f. Commute-Free Working? N/A

8. If you have been opened or partially opened, what challenges have you experienced?

   Having to provide online methods of engagement among our faith community and meet the needs of so many people hurting w/ economic, social, spiritual and mental needs during this time.

9. If you have been opened or partially opened, how has the community's adherence and response to the COVID health safety protocols been?

   In a word... Patient.
Previously submitted on May 12, 2020

**Draft Protocols for Safely ReGathering for Faith Communities and Houses of Worship**

Houses of worship should put in place plans to regather according to the guidance of the Centers for Disease Control as well as State and local guidance.

**GUIDING PRINCIPLES:**

Our Top Priority: The health and safety of worshipers, their families and our communities.

ReGathering

In all phases establish and continue communication with local and State authorities to determine current mitigation levels in our community.

Safety Actions

**Intensify cleaning, disinfection, and ventilation**

- Conduct deep cleaning of facilities, disinfecting high traffic areas including restrooms.
- Have Hand Sanitizers at every entrance and exit.
- Clean and disinfect frequently touched surfaces at least daily and shared objects between use.
- Ensure ventilation systems operate properly. Increase circulation.
- Turn off all water fountains.

**Promote Healthy Hygiene practices**

- Encourage use of cloth face covering at all gatherings in the building except children aged less than 2 years old.
- Have adequate supplies to support healthy hygiene behaviors, including hand sanitizers, tissues and no-touch trash cans.
- Consider posting signs on good hygiene, refraining from physical contact and wearing face coverings.

**Promote Social Distancing**

- All religious activities will be conducted in a “contact-less” manner.
- Limit size of gatherings in accordance with the guidance and directives of State and local authorities.
- Percentage occupancy is preferred over numeric limitations, (25/50% occupancy versus gatherings of 50/100/250).
- Maintain video streaming and online platforms for those unable to attend.
- If appropriate and possible, add overflow areas or additional services to maintain social distancing.
- Space seating for attendees who do not live in the same household to at least six feet apart.
- Consider limiting seating to alternate rows.
- Prop open doors to limit physical contact with surfaces.
- Have designated entrance doors and exit doors to allow one-way movement of worshipers.
- Possibly tape off every other stall or sink in the bathrooms.
- Clean restrooms between use. Encourage worshipers not to eat or drink one hour prior to service to limit bathroom usage.
- Supply masks as needed.
- Have attenders take their temperature before leaving home. Temperatures above 100.4 degrees prohibits attendance.
- Children and youth will gather in worship with their families.
- Children and youth gatherings will resume when school systems reopen. School guidelines for distancing will apply.
- ENCOURAGE AT-RISK INDIVIDUALS AND THOSE WITH SYMPTOMS OF ILLNESS TO STAY AT HOME.

**Limit Community Sharing of Worship Materials**

- Temporarily limit the sharing of frequently touched objects such as hymnals, bulletins, envelopes, pens, etc.
- Modify the methods used to receive financial contributions.
- Consider a stationary collection box, the mail, or electronic methods rather than shared collection trays or baskets.
- Avoid food offerings when it is being shared by common dishes.
- Withhold coffee stations, donuts, or groups meals until safe to do so.
- If multiple services are conducted, cleaning of common surfaces should take place between services.
- Created cleaning lists for staff and volunteers.
- Religious practices that do not include social distancing should be temporarily suspended, (such as baptism).
- Regulations for use of public pools should apply to baptism.
- Encourage smaller gatherings in home for personal connection, as allowed by local health officials. (<10, <20, <50)

**Train All Staff**
- Train all leaders, staff and volunteers in the above safety actions.
- Consider conducting the training virtually, or in-person if social distancing is maintained.
- Staff, greeters, and volunteers should be able to answer questions on procedures and policies.

**Facilities Management**
- In the event a person diagnosed with COVID-19 is determined to have been in a building it is strongly suggested to close that building temporarily until the following occurs.
  - Properly clean and disinfect the area and the building where the individual was present.
  - Notify local health officials if a diagnosed person has been in the facility.

**Continue to review all relevant State and local guidelines regarding gatherings, social distancing, and places of worship.**