**Roadmap to Re-entry**

**Middle District Missionary Baptist Association**

Churches

1. You must decide what is best for your congregation as reopening begins.
2. These are considerations, not mandates.
3. As our churches reopen, we encourage you to follow and CONSIDER these guidelines.

**Preparation**

Prepare the church for opening

* Deep clean the entire church. Have the carpets professionally cleaned, sanitize pews, bathrooms, doorknobs, light switches, all musical equipment, and microphones.
* Have touchless hand sanitizer stations throughout the church.
* All filters should be replaced throughout the building.
* Remove Bibles and Hymnals.
* Decide how members will follow scriptural readings: Wall monitors, personal electronic devices, etc.
* Post signs about not shaking hands and doing non-contact greetings.
* Establish capacity limits.
* Post “No Vacancy” signs outside when capacity is reached.
* Establish what your order of service will be.
* Include worship alternatives: Online worship, conference call worship, etc.
* Inform the congregation through email, text messages, and social media about how you will prepare the church for their arrival. Also, encourage members if they are sick, then they should stay home and join you online.

**Service Times and Location**

* Mask, or a face covering MUST be worn during in person gatherings. You should provide masks for those without one.
* Entry doors should be propped open or have the greeters/ushers hold them open.
* Train Greeters and Volunteers to answer questions on procedures and policies upon the return to the building. Train them beforehand if possible.
* Will your church continue to have an online presence?
* What about Your bible studies, Sunday school, AND VBS?

**Service Times and Location**

1. If people are from the same household, they can sit together. You should space out other individuals.
2. Consider not handing out bulletins, tithe envelopes, or fans.
3. Small praise teams should be used instead of a large choir.
4. Do not walk to give offerings, nor pass communion elements.
5. When giving offerings either give online or place them in baskets as they exit the building. On communion Sunday, place the elements in the communion holders located on the pews or have them prepackaged in the entrance and allow the worshipper to pick up as they enter.
6. Dismiss in an orderly matter.

**No More Church As Usual**

**Things to remember**

1. **Cleaning is key!**
2. **Proper Air Flow!**
3. **Social Distance!**
4. **Face Coverings!**
5. **No Large Choirs!**
6. **Brief Worship Services!**

* You are encouraged to use these Associational guidelines.
* These are only considerations, not mandates.
* Each church must make their own decisions about when and how to reopen.
* Have a written reentry plan with procedures and policies.
* Always use disposable microphone covers, sanitizing wipes, etc.
* Have an additional plan if there is another Covid wave.