

## EFC East Valley - Reopening FAQ (Updated 5.30.2021)

- **Why are we deciding to take any risk and reopen at all?**

- Two reasons:

- Corporate Worship (Connection to God): We believe God's glory is magnified when His people worship Him at the same time and in the same place. We believe the church is called to be an assembly, which denotes a physical gathering of His people. The impact on the worshippers is also increased. This is not quantifiable, but our experience points to this conclusion: from worshipping through a pre-recorded service, to a livestream (worshipping at the same time), to the testing phase where a team of livestream leaders/operators have worshipped together (in the same place), the quality of worship has increased.
    - Fellowship (Connection to Others): We believe that in-person interactions provide a deeper connection amongst attendees. Though connecting virtually has been a means to staying connected with others during this pandemic, it ultimately cannot replace in-person fellowship. As many of our members continue to struggle with loneliness, depression, and isolation, we felt compelled to develop standards and procedures that allow for safe in-person interactions at our indoor services.

- **Is EFCEV abiding by the LA County Covid guidelines regarding religious services?**

- Here are the links to two documents regarding surge rules and LA County Health Guidelines:
    - [Link](#) for LA County Dept of Public Health Order on Reopening Safer at Work and in the Community for Control of Covid-19

- **How many attendees will be allowed on site for the English Service?**

- We are capping our attendance at 67 people, which is less than 25% of the maximum capacity of our sanctuary.
  - In addition to the 67 attendance cap, there is also a limitation of 37 pew spots available for people to sit in and still maintain 6-feet social distancing in the sanctuary. We will stop entry into the sanctuary once all 37 seats are taken.
  - We do not anticipate having to turn anyone away due to this standard, as we have not exceeded 25 people since starting in-person outdoor services in November. Also, people in the same household will be seated together, counting as taking up only 1 pew spot.

- **What will happen if new guests show up?**

- If the guest passes our health and safety check (e.g. temperature, questionnaire), agrees to adhere to our health and safety standards, and the total number of attendees remains under 67 people, they will be allowed to attend service.

- **Will we need to first complete the In-Person Interest Form if I want to start attending in-person service?**

- No, you will no longer need to fill out the in-person interest form.

- **Will I need to complete the Health & Safety Questionnaire ahead of time?**

- No, you will be asked to complete the Health & Safety Questionnaire\* on-site (<http://bit.ly/EVHealthSurvey>)

\* If you answer “Yes” to any of the questions, you may be asked to leave by the Health and Safety Team to prevent transmission and spread.

- **Will my temperature be taken as I enter the church building?**
  - Yes. Along with completing a Covid Screening questionnaire on site, everyone will have their temperatures taken upon arrival on church grounds by someone from the Health & Safety Team.
- **What safety precautions are we taking to prevent transmission/spread at our on-site service?**
  - Everyone will be expected to following guidelines set forth by church leadership:
    - Masks covering nose & mouth to be worn at all times whenever on the church premise, both indoor and outdoor areas.
    - While indoors, maintain social distancing (6 ft) between you and others apart from your household.
    - Complete the COVID Screening form on-site
    - Disclose to the Health & Safety Lead if you become symptomatic after having attended a Sunday in-person meeting.
  - Spaces where guests will be able to sit for service will be at least 6 feet apart
- **How are the facilities being cleaned and prepared for worship services?**
  - Pew cloth seating will be sanitized with an alcohol spray. Wooden handrails and backing of the pews will also be sanitized and wiped down.
  - All entrance door handles will be sanitized and wiped down.
  - Bathroom stalls, sink counters, door handles/locks will all be sanitized with an alcohol spray.
  - UV light will be used before and after the service to sanitize the sanctuary.
- **What will the service be like?**
  - Guests will be expected to arrive between 10:45-11:15am.
  - Service will begin at 11:15am.
  - You will immediately be greeted by a Health & Safety team member who will:
    - 1) Take your temperature with a touchless thermometer
    - 2) Ask you to fill out the COVID Health Screening questionnaire
    - 3) Remind you of our standards and procedures
  - You may fellowship in the playground and/or back parking lot, being always mindful to keep your masks on.
  - When given the “green light” by a member of the Health & Safety Team, you may enter the building and take a seat in the sanctuary.
  - Service will start promptly at 11:15 and will include a worship set, a sermon, a second worship set, and announcements. Service will end approximately at 12:15pm.
  - You can leave once service ends, or you may stay and fellowship outdoors with others as long as you keep your mask on.
- **Will there be in-person Christian Education (CE)?**
  - No. Sunday CE for Junior High, High School, and LINK will continue online.
    - Junior High: Contact Counselor Matt Sun for instructions on how to attend CE on the Discord platform.

- High School: Contact Counselor Eric for instructions on how to attend CE on the Discord platform.
  - LINK (College & Young Adult): Contact Counselor Martin for instructions on how to attend virtual CE.
- **Will there be child care/children's ministry provided?**
  - No child care or children's ministry services will be provided at this time.
- **Will church be serving lunch?**
  - No lunch will be served at this present time.
- **If someone reports becoming symptomatic after attending an in-person service, will you inform all those present? If so, how?**
  - Yes, an [email](#) will be sent to anyone who may be affected to ensure they can follow up to receive proper screening and monitoring.
- **Will livestream continue to be available for those of us who feel uncomfortable going?**
  - Yes, we will still continue our livestream every week. You can access the service in real-time here: [www.efcev.org/enservice](http://www.efcev.org/enservice). (If you are viewing at a later time, click "Replay of Last Week's Service.")