

VICTORIA

Alliance Church

Considerations for facility use to limit communicable disease transmission

While the Church has always remained open and actively ministering, the Covid-19 pandemic had caused the closure of our facility. As we move forward in returning to safely gathering, we want to keep the following guidelines and information in mind as a faith community.

If unwell, stay at home.

We need to adopt some change to our culture and discover together that it is a loving act to bow out of commitments when you are unwell.

All who enter our facility or step onto our site must be feeling 100% well. You will be asked to perform a self-assessment for health.



Wash your hands.

Practice good hand hygiene by washing your hands often with soap and water, or using alcohol or hand sanitizer.



Follow the arrows.

From time to time, directional arrows may indicate a one way flow of traffic created in and around our facility. Doors and routes may at times be one way. Please take note of any directional arrows.



Prioritize others.

Regardless of how physical distancing impacts your experience, we will prioritize the health and safety of others over ourselves. This kind of otherish-ness is in line with the Gospel message of Jesus.

Maintaining 6 ft / 2 meter distance from others, and refrain from physical greetings has been an effective strategy in limiting communicable disease transmission. Masks at times may be suggested indoors. Masks may be removed by a main speaker or reader while maintaining a 3 meter distance, or with barrier.



Identify Essentials

In person gatherings during a flu season or while levels of Covid-19 are high in the community will require that we identify and offer our priority to essentials. We will prioritize our spaces for corporate worship and the observance of end of life celebrations, weddings, and baptisms, in accordance with our Health Officer's most current guidelines.



Focus on small.

We will be prioritizing gatherings that are somewhat small. We will assess group size limits on a case by case basis. All on-site usage must be booked through the church office.

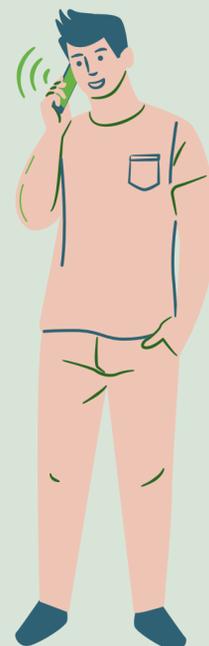
As of July 1, 2021 indoor and outdoor worship gatherings no longer have size limits. Social distancing is still encouraged as an effective method of disease prevention. Our request is that folks continue to wear masks while indoors until all our staff and volunteers have been able to complete their vaccination process. Please check with office for details.



Call or email before coming in.

During the pandemic we have changed how we work. While we are returning to some on site hours, we recommend that if you plan to come into the church office or the facility at any time, to call our office in advance to ensure we are prepared to receive you on-site.

If you have any questions about visiting our facility, please reach out to the office prior to your visit. Email is best: office@victoriaalliance.ca



Current on-site limitations

During times when the facility is permitting use, an effort to demonstrate abundant love and care for the vulnerable in our community, while balancing the need to wisely steward our resources and time available for cleaning, we are choosing to impose some limitations on the current use of our facility.

Please note the following:

- Any **food or beverage** service on site at this time requires approval from the office. You will be asked to present a detailed food safety and Communicable Disease prevention plan.
- While singing is permitted, we strongly encourage mask wearing at all times.
- There is to be a clearly identified facility supervisor during usage. This individual is responsible to ensure our Communicable Disease Prevention plan is adhered to. Unless otherwise identified, it will be assumed that the facility supervisor is the key holder who has gained access to the facility.
- All attendees must perform a health check before entering facility.
- Sitting is encouraged, as it makes physically distanced interactions much easier to maintain.
- Currently, all gatherings must be pre-approved by the office, with a clearly identified capacity expectation, and plan to handle such capacity.
- With the exception of private office use by staff, and the gym for our Taste of Encouragement program, the only spaces available to gather for the essential business of our church at this point are the Sanctuary, Board Room, Fireside or Graceland. To help us achieve sustainable cleaning practices, please refrain from walking in other areas of the church facility.

Our commitment

In response to the current Covid-19 pandemic, we want to ensure that our faith community continues to live out its calling to be a Christ-centered, Spirit-empowered Church on mission making Jesus known among us, around us, beyond us. Ensuring the health and safety of those among us affects those around us, and is a part of making Jesus known.

To that end, our leadership has committed to ensure the following:

- We will continue to communicate clearly about how to remain connected with our faith community while absent from our facility. We are committed to a volunteer system of providing pastoral care, and will continue to lean into providing excellent online resources, Sunday Worship at Home experiences, and opportunities for further connection through our website. We continue to suspend our in person Sunday morning worship services.
- We will be continuing to conduct a thorough weekly cleaning and disinfecting of our church building and have added additional cleaning of high contact surfaces surrounding the office and foyer.
- We will maintain contact with our District Office to ensure we are receiving all the pertinent updates regarding our facility care and health and safety recommendations.
- We will continually evaluate the usage of our facility and the adoption of our new procedures to ensure we are working toward full compliance.
- We will take action where we can, take responsibility to educate ourselves and our community about best practices, and take ourselves to prayer to seek God's wisdom in all circumstances.

Facility Supervisor Responsibilities

Specific to the current pandemic and surrounding circumstances associated with re-opening our facility and site, these are additional responsibilities of which the Facility/Site Supervisor (or key holder) must be aware.

Please note the following:

- All gatherings on-site must be arranged and approved through our Church office in advance.
- There are no limits on capacity for worship services. Private events have maximums in place by the PHO. Please adhere to all PHO maximums.
- The Facility Supervisor is to be aware of any area that is accessed by people during their stay on-site. To help the wise stewardship of our cleaning time and resources, we ask that when gatherings are permitted, that they only happen in the Sanctuary, Board Room, Graceland or Fireside at this point.
- The Facility Supervisor will help to ensure that Physical Distancing practices are encouraged. Masks continue to be encouraged at this time. The Facility Supervisor will make the location of sinks for handwashing known to those on-site
- The Facility Supervisor will ensure that the high touch areas have been sanitized before leaving (Lysol product to be provided by church, spray touch surfaces and chair handles).
- The Facility Supervisor will advise the office of any incidents that are worth noting, and of any extraordinary requests for cleaning required.

Office Considerations for Bookings

In response to the current Covid-19 pandemic, we want to ensure that our faith community continues to live out its calling to be a Christ-centered, Spirit-empowered Church on mission making Jesus known among us, around us, beyond us. Ensuring the health and safety of those among us affects those around us, and is a part of making Jesus known.

All facility use bookings will be determined through the church office with the following consideration:

- The highest priority for our faith community is to support those who are grieving. Funerals and Celebrations of Life will be given priority. They are no exception to the PHO orders however. Where necessary, it is our hope to be able to assist with the live-streaming of such events as well.
- We will also place high priority to join with others in the celebration of weddings, child dedications, baptisms, and church membership.
- Small and mid-size groups that have been unable to make the switch to online options will be among those we hope to encourage to gather on-site. Groups that are able to make the Zoom meetings work are encouraged to continue doing so.
- Practice and Filming for any portion of our Worship at Home experience will be given opportunity to use the Sanctuary or Foyer for such activities. (Musicians are to be encouraged to spread out throughout the Sanctuary, and are responsible for sanitizing equipment).
- The office will coordinate all use by our Rental group for gatherings.
- We will continue to evaluate our procedures and make adjustments as necessary or as the pandemic situation requires.