



Sidney First Church of the Nazarene

1899 Wapakoneta Avenue ♦ Sidney, Ohio 45365 ♦ 937-492-4492

Rev. Chad Wilson, Lead Pastor

May 18, 2020

Church Family:

Our church board, staff, and I have come to the conclusion that it is time to begin welcoming you back into the building for Sunday morning worship services! We will resume on campus services beginning on Sunday morning May 24th. We are offering services at 9:30a.m., 11a.m., and we will also be Live Streaming the 9:30 service. (Our Live Steam will look a little different than what we've offered these past 2 months, but you can join us on YouTube at "Sidney First Naz", or find the link on our FaceBook page.)

If you have been eager to get back to church, we invite you to come on back on the 24th! We'll be ready and waiting for you! If, however, you feel that this is too soon, or if you're simply in the high-risk group, we would encourage you to continue to join us On-line for a while longer.

Here's what we have done to prepare for a safe return:

1. We have hand sanitizer stations throughout the building.
2. We have spread the rows of our seating out a bit to provide better distancing.
3. We are cleaning and sterilizing restrooms, and all touch points prior to all our gatherings.
4. We will have the doors held open for you, so you don't have to touch handles.
5. We will not be passing offering plates. They will be set out and you can give as you enter the sanctuary, or simply continue to give on-line.

Children, Youth, and Small Groups:

* We will NOT be offering on site children, pre-school, nursery, youth, or small group ministries as of yet.

* We ask that you keep your children with you at all times. We will be providing children's activity bags for the kids to color, etc... during the service. (Pastor Kim will continue to post children's messages for the kids to watch on Sunday afternoons. This is found on Facebook at "Sidney Naz Kids".) At this time the GYM and Children's Church rooms will be off limits.

* Be patient... we will be loosening up restrictions on small group gatherings in weeks ahead. Sunday morning Adult and Youth classes will begin meeting on Sunday, June 7th. And we plan to re-start Children's Church on Sunday, June 21st.

What we need of you:

1. Please be respectful and courteous toward others. There are many different opinions about what we have been going through and what is or isn't the right thing to do. Not everyone agrees with you, and you don't have to agree with everyone else. One thing we can agree on is that Church is not the place to voice those divisive opinions. We simply want to provide an atmosphere where everyone feels safe to come and worship our Lord TOGETHER.
2. Please respect other people's space. We're asking that you don't shake hands or hug other people, and try your best to maintain a 6 foot distance between you and others. As you take your seat in the Sanctuary, we are asking that each person, couple, or family please leave 2 chairs between you and the next person, couple, or family in your row.
3. Please interact with one another! There will be people in church that have felt very isolated and need your smile and kind words of encouragement. Give them liberally!
4. We will not be requiring facemasks, although we do encourage you to wear them. (If interested, we will have facemask that you can have. They can be picked up at the table in the foyers.)
5. If you or a member of your family is sick, please stay at home and join us in the On-line service.

This has been a long and difficult season in many different ways. Some have been lonely, some have lost jobs, others have had financial hardships, some have faced the stress of becoming their children's school-teacher, and all of us have faced the frustration of political, economic, and social tension. We've all been through a lot! The best thing we can do for one another is to simply offer a smiling face, kind words, and worship our Lord TOGETHER! We are better, happier, and stronger TOGETHER! Isn't that a beautiful word... TOGETHER?

I for one am very ready for ...TOGETHER! I love you all and look forward to seeing you soon.

Pastor Chad Wilson