



CHURCH ON THE ROCK
— **New Haven** —
LOVE ♦ LEARN ♦ LIVE

Reopening
3 Phase Approach

Pastoral Staff

Lead Pastor Jason Goubourn

Associate Pastor Asia Goubourn

Associate Pastor James Roundtree

Associate Pastor Keith Kears

Current Updates

Church on the Rock is committed seeing our members ENGAGED, EQUIPPED, EMPOWERED, and ENCOURAGED. Over the past 4 months, we have done our best by moving our entire church community online. As Connecticut now enters Phase 2 of reopening, our governor has eased restrictions on businesses and religious institutions. Thus, it is time to start on the gradual and responsible road to physically reopening our church!

While we are truly looking forward to being together again, as a church, our reopening **will be** in line with the state and local government CDC health guidelines, which means until we are completely clear of the COVID 19 Pandemic, our services will look a bit different.

The 3 Phase plan that we have devised prioritizes love for our neighbors by keeping people safe (Matt 22:39), showing proper biblical respect for our government official (Rom 13:1) and demonstrating that we trust our church family to make wise decisions.

There is no question that we desire to gather in person, but we are committed to doing so in a safe and responsible way. Our phased plan will not only help avoid gathering too soon, but also not hold our church in this online only era for longer than needed.

3 PHASE APPROACH

Social Distancing	Phase 1: Limited July 19-Sept 5	Phase 2: Moderate Sept 6-TBA	Phase 3: Normal TBA
Vulnerable Population**	Stay at Home	TBA	Normal
Those with symptoms of Covid 19	Stay at Home	Stay at Home	Stay at Home
Max Groups/Crowds	No more than 100 Social distancing	TBA	Normal
Sunday Service	YouTube Livestream & Multiple Sunday Services	YouTube Livestream & Multiple Sunday Services	YouTube Livestream & Multiple Sunday Services
Nursery/Toddler Care	Closed	Closed	Normal
KIDS Church	Online at 2p	Online at 2p	Normal
XL Youth Ministry	Online at 2p	Some activities may return to normal	Normal Activity
Office Staff	Closed to Public	Normal Operation	Normal Operation
Worship Team	Reduces size based on social distancing	Reduces size based on social distancing	Normal
Ministry Events	Cancelled	Some activities may be modified	As scheduled
Restrooms	Limited Access	Limited Access	Normal

****Vulnerable Population-** *The term refers to those with pre-existing or underlying conditions and ALL persons age 65 or older, who are especially susceptible to Covid-19.*

Note: Anyone serving on a Sunday morning, must be healthy with no pre-existing conditions.

Note: Dates are subject to change

COTR'S BEST PRACTICES FOR HEALTH SAFETY

PROGRAM ADMINISTRATOR

-Appointed Program Administrator is Pastor James. Pastor James will oversee the implementation of all best practices for health and safety.

General Guidance: Each person has a responsibility to look out for the welfare of others. According to the CDC - symptoms may appear 2-14 days after exposure to the virus. **People with the following symptoms or combinations of symptoms may have COVID-19:** • Cough • Shortness of breath or difficulty breathing Or at least two of these symptoms: • Fever • Chills • Repeated shaking with chills • Muscle pain • Headache • Sore throat • New loss of taste or smell

Discourage personal contact:

-We will discontinue meet and greet times in worship and maintain social distancing.

PERSONAL PROTECTION

- Upon entering the church, temperature will be taken
- Upon entering church, all attendees are required to wear a mask
- Masks will be provided for those who are in need

CLEANING PLAN

-Foyer countertops, bathrooms, and all microphones will be disinfected between services

SANITIZER STATIONS

-You will see an increase of sanitizer stations strategically placed around sanctuary and foyer

PRE-REGISTRATION

-All persons planning to attend service must pre-register on our website or by calling 203-498-2687 in order to be admitted into each Sunday service

SECURITY

-Normal duties

GREETERS/USHERS

- Check registration number
- Make sure everyone is wearing a mask
- Will seat all attendees in designated seating
- On 1st Sunday's must hand out communion at door
- Make sure all persons adhere to 1-way traffic, which will be marked accordingly
- Make sure people do not gather in foyer but instead maintain 6ft of social distancing

QUESTIONS & ANSWERS

How will we make sure people are not sitting too close to one another? We will utilize the CDC recommendation of 6' per person separation guideline both side-to-side as well as front to back. Chairs will be clearly marked indicating where people can sit. Family units can sit together, provided they are residing in the same home.

Where do I enter? We ask that all persons attending enter using the main entrance on Hamilton Street. Doors will be clearly marked. All entries will be touchless.

Should I wear a mask? Yes. Information from CDC on cloth face coverings indicates wearing a mask reduces the potential for transmission of the COVID-19 virus. We will have masks available for those in need.

Will the bathrooms be open? Yes, but their access will be limited, particularly in Phases One & Two. There will also be attendants to ensure that all handles and surfaces are disinfected between uses. And, of course, signage reminding folks to wash their hands will be on display.

How will the offering be received? We strongly encourage online giving. Offering plates will NO LONGER be passed between congregants. Ushers would hold offering plates at the exit doors at the end of the service to receive the offering.

What about Communion? Communion trays will not be passed between congregants. Sealed disposable Communion elements will be given to all who enter the building on 1st Sundays. Instructions will also be provided for those who are unable to attend worship in person to pick up Communion elements the Thursday prior to Communion Sunday. Those unable to pick up elements in person, are encouraged to contact the church office so that a member from the Care Team may deliver them on the Thursday prior to Communion Sunday.

Thank You

