

Introduction

Good Shepherd Church desires to be a safe place for all people who attend any ministry or activity either on or off our campuses. The safety and health of our staff, leaders, and participants is a primary concern. This document summarizes Good Shepherd Church's COVID-19 Safety Protocol, which reflects our church's commitment to provide a safe space to worship, learn, and grow during the COVID-19 pandemic. These procedures apply to all Good Shepherd Church programs, ministries, activities, and gatherings.

Liability Waiver

Exposure to COVID-19 is an inherent risk in any public location where there are people present. Good Shepherd Church (GSUMC) cannot guarantee that you will not be exposed to the virus at our gatherings. GSUMC will not be held liable if you contract COVID-19 while participating in our gatherings or on our campuses.

Face Coverings

Face coverings must be worn at all times indoors. When outdoors, wear a face covering around people who don't live in your household when social distancing is difficult to maintain.

Practice Good Hygiene

- Wash your hands frequently and before serving with minors. If soap and water are not readily available, use hand sanitizer.
- Discourage hand shaking, fist bumps, and hugs.

Social Distancing

Social distancing (staying 6 feet apart from other people) should be practiced when you are around people who are not from your household in both indoor and outdoor settings.

Symptom Screening

All staff, leaders, weekday office visitors, and minors going to minor-specific gatherings will get a temperature check and questionnaire before participating in gatherings.

Preparing Areas and Supplies for Gatherings

- Limit sharing of supplies/toys between people and use individual supplies/toys whenever possible. Disinfect after use and before the next use.
- Avoid serving food. If food is served, used pre-packaged food.
- Limit touch points by holding open doors, removing unused items, etc.
- Discourage crowded waiting areas and eliminate lines if possible.
- Change seating or room layouts in order to space people at least six feet apart.

Returning to Gatherings

- Stay home if you have had close contact with a person with COVID-19 or with COVID-19 like symptoms within the last 14 days.
- Stay home if you have a positive COVID-19 test or are waiting for COVID-19 test results.
- Depending upon the ailment, a doctor's note may be required stating the person is not contagious and may resume gatherings.
- Contact your staff leader or medical provider if you have questions for when you can return to gatherings.

When to get a COVID-19 Test

Get a COVID-19 test if you have COVID-19 like symptoms, are a close contact of a positive case, or if you were in situations with crowds where you could not practice effective social distancing.

Person Displays Symptoms During Gathering

- An isolation room is used only to separate a sick person from well people.
- If a person shows COVID-19 like symptoms or has tested positive, immediately isolate the sick person in an isolation room or have them leave the building.
- Close off areas that were used by the sick person until they can be properly disinfected.
- Fill out COVID-19 Reporting form for documentation on www.gsumc.org/forms for contact tracing purposes immediately if possible. If not, staff supervisor must immediately be notified and form must be completed within 12 hours. Leader will confirm attendance and give list to their department leader.
- Once the areas have been properly disinfected, they can be reopened.

Reporting

All people should immediately notify their department leader if they become sick with COVID-19 like symptoms, test positive for COVID-19, or have been exposed to someone with COVID-19 like symptoms or a confirmed case within the last 14 days.

Disinfecting

Disinfect shared spaces, supplies and frequently touched surfaces after use. GSUMC uses Oxivir Five 16 disinfectant, which is available in meeting rooms. Oxivir Five 16 must remain wet on the surface for a full 5 minutes to disinfect.

- Clean items using soap and water to remove dirt/grime on a surface.
- Disinfect items:
 - Use alcohol wipes to disinfect electronics
 - For soft or porous items, launder if possible and if not, spray with disinfectant.
 - For hard or nonporous items, wash in dishwasher or use disinfectant.
- Wash hands after disinfecting

Considerations for Working With Children and Students

- Wear disposable smocks when comforting, feeding, or holding young children and wear long hair up off the collar.
- Do not share toys with more than one group of children, unless they are washed and disinfected before moving to another group.
- Remove items or clothing that come into contact with body secretions.

Go to <https://gsumc.org/coronavirus/> to see Good Shepherd Church's full COVID-19 Safety Protocol.