

From the Humanitarian Disaster Institute

Should I Be Attending Worship Services at My Church?



Use this decision tree to help you make an informed decision.

1 What is my health and exposure status?	2 How well has my church prepared for a safe reopening?	3 What safety measures can I expect to be in place when I go to church for worship?	4 What health and safety measures must exist for me to feel safe going to church?
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><input type="checkbox"/> Am I at a higher risk for COVID-19 infection?<input type="checkbox"/> Am I over age 65?<input type="checkbox"/> Do I have any of the following conditions: diabetes, hypertension, heart or lung disease, compromised immune system?<input type="checkbox"/> Am I under a quarantine or stay-at-home order?<input type="checkbox"/> Do I work in close proximity with a person who has been sick or diagnosed with COVID-19 during the past 14 days?<input type="checkbox"/> Do I currently have a fever or any of the following symptoms: cough, difficulty breathing, sore throat, muscle or chest pain, fatigue, headache, congestion, runny nose, digestive upset?<input type="checkbox"/> Within the past 14 days, have I been sick or diagnosed with COVID-19, or am I sharing a residence with anyone who has been sick or diagnosed with COVID-19?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><input type="checkbox"/> Is my church reopening according to current state and local orders and recommendations?<input type="checkbox"/> Has our building been disinfected and cleaned, and how frequently will it be disinfected during use?<input type="checkbox"/> Has my church reopening team been trained in social distancing, hygiene practices, health and safety protocols, cleaning and disinfection?<input type="checkbox"/> Has my church explained the new operating process for arrivals, seating, worship practices, exits, and dealing with apparent illness?<input type="checkbox"/> Has my church made in-person or alternate worship options available for children, the elderly, and the disabled?<input type="checkbox"/> Has my church made its full reopening plan available?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><input type="checkbox"/> Has the church asked people with symptoms or recent exposure to stay home for now?<input type="checkbox"/> Will everyone coming into our church be required to wear a mask?<input type="checkbox"/> Do we have isolation space or a plan for people who appear to be (or become) ill while at church?<input type="checkbox"/> Are social distancing measures clearly marked, explained, and enforced?<input type="checkbox"/> Will masks, tissues, hand sanitizer, and no-touch trash cans be available for use?<input type="checkbox"/> Will there be people to explain, or signs to remind us of, new worship practices and preventive actions?<input type="checkbox"/> Is my church keeping attendance records, and will I be notified if someone in church is diagnosed with COVID-19?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><input type="checkbox"/> I am willing to stay home if I am ill or may recently have been exposed to COVID-19.<input type="checkbox"/> I am willing to abide by the preventive measures my church requires.<input type="checkbox"/> I want everyone to be wearing a mask.<input type="checkbox"/> I want social distancing measures to be taken seriously and enforced.<input type="checkbox"/> I want to know that I will be contacted in case of possible COVID-19 exposure at church.<input type="checkbox"/> I want to know who to call if I become ill after attending a worship service.<input type="checkbox"/> I will let my church know if for some reason I am not yet able to return after the church has reopened.
If any yes, DO NOT GO.	If you are not satisfied with preparations, DO NOT GO.	If you are not satisfied with conditions, DO NOT GO.	If you are comfortable with measures taken, GO.