

Dear Siblings and Friends:

As we continue to course through another peak of COVID-19 we wanted to connect with you our ministers and Churches. Our last communication was the ["PSF Re-Opening Letter UPDATE—October 6, 2020"](#) . Though the letter was reflective of the time during COVID-19 when we were potentially moving into a less restrictive tier, we still encourage the best practices and recommendations that we shared in this letter.

Beginning Friday, most of California's regions will be under the Stay-at -Home order with the tentative end date of Thursday, January 7th at 11:59 p.m. This order will have similar mandates as was given in mid-March of this year. We also understand that in early December, the Supreme Court brought a ruling around places of worship whereas it ordered California judges to follow its lead in blocking stringent coronavirus restrictions on houses of worship. However, these rulings are to the State of California--where the State guidelines are the baseline standard and are required to be a part of each County's health directive. **Each County can make more stringent requirements.** We must follow the directives of the County Health Departments in our locations: Alameda, (including the city of Berkeley as a separate health jurisdiction), Contra Costa, San Francisco, and San Mateo.

- Alameda County Public Health Department
<http://www.acphd.org>
- Contra Costa Health Services
<https://www.coronavirus.cchealth.org>
- San Francisco Department of Public Health
<https://www.sfdph.org/dph/alerts/coronavirus.asp>
- San Mateo Department of Public Health
<https://www.smchealth.org/coronavirus>

Other Important Documents and things to keep in mind:

- [The CAL OSHA Guidelines](#)—This provides COVID-19 best-practices, with sanitation guidelines for businesses that serve the public (which include churches), and those protocols need to be either performed by the churches or else the churches need to ensure that the guidelines are being followed.
- [Sample of Safety Policy](#) (Shared with PSF by First Presbyterian Church Burlingame) -- Good example for good practices of all kinds, including sanitation.
- And finally, please check with your church Insurance as to protocols before re-opening.

We hope this helps provide you some answers--and we pray that our church siblings have a peaceful and safe Advent and Christmas Season.