

Madrid E Free Re-opening Public Worship Information

We want to make our church family aware of our plans for re-opening our church to public worship services beginning on May 31. Please read carefully so you are best prepared for your time at church. Please understand that we will continue to monitor this situation and make adjustments and changes as needed. We know there are many viewpoints on this situation. Please be gracious to all within our church family during this time. We want to proceed with public worship with wisdom, grace and love and choose to err on the side of caution for the good of everyone involved. Following Jesus is all about sacrifice and putting others first so as we seek to love God and love others, our own personal convenience needs to be willingly set aside during this time.

A few notes to begin:

- The church is being thoroughly cleaned before each and every week's worship service.
- Anyone who is ill or has experienced symptoms should remain at home.
- Anyone who has been in contact with COVID-19 within the last 14 days should remain at home.
- High risk individuals due to age or conditions should consider the guidelines from the Department of Public Health and prayerfully make a wise decision on whether to attend or not.
- The church service will continue to be available for viewing online on Facebook and on our website www.madridefc.org. This video will upload around 11:00 AM.
- There will be no Sunday School or nursery until further notice.

What to expect when attending Public Worship at Madrid E Free:

- There will be a church member outside and in the lobby providing direction and guidance to all those attending.
- All attenders must enter through the ministry hall doors. No other church door will be open (unless you are choosing the chapel option as stated below).
- We will be providing the chapel (the old sanctuary) as a secondary option for those who are either in the at-risk category or are feeling a little more cautious in their approach to coming back to church and would like a location in a little more isolated area and with fewer people. The service will be on the screen in the chapel and could view it sitting in the pews in that room. Spaced out seating will still be in place, as well as social distancing guidelines. If you would like to take advantage of this option, please enter through the first set of double glass doors near the chapel. All others please enter in ministry hall doors as stated above. Again, we want to encourage people to only begin attending when they are comfortable doing so.
- Unless weather prohibits, all doors will be propped open to minimize contact/touch.
- Upon entering the building, we ask each individual/family to go through the north doors (past the sound booth) and go directly to their seat/s. Please find a group of chairs that matches the number of your family unit within 1 chair. (i.e. family of four please find a pod of 4 or 5). There will be an orderly dismissal and we will ask everyone to leave from the southside ministry hall doors and then directly exit the building.
- There will be hand sanitizer available but ask each attender who is able to bring their own to use.
- No bulletins are being passed out. We will continue to deliver information via email and online.
- We will not be passing the offering plates. There will be a basket in the lobby where your giving can be placed. You can also utilize our online giving and the mail slot door by the offices.

- On communion Sunday's there will be individual communion kits available to pick up as you enter the service.
- With there being no nursery, we are reminding families to come prepared for the service by bringing quiet activities/toys for children to do during the service. The worship service will be shorter than usual, likely closer to 45 minutes.
- As much as we are all looking forward to being together, we all need to follow social distancing guidelines while we are at church. Chairs will be spaced out so your family unit can sit together and then have space between your family and others. No shaking hands, fist bumps, hugs or other physical contact to anyone not in your family. Parents, please make sure your children are by your side at all times. We know there is great desire to connect with our church family and therefore we will be setting up an outdoor lobby that will be blocked off with cones on the northwest side of the parking lot. This will only be opened after church (not before) but will be available for anyone who would like to take the opportunity to fellowship. We will be asking all to continue to follow social distancing guidelines while using the outdoor lobby.
- We are allowing each individual/family to decide whether or not they will use a facemask while inside the building. If you would like to use a facemask but don't have one, the church can provide one for you.
- The bathrooms will be available for use but ask that they only be used when absolutely necessary. We ask everyone to know that ahead of time and plan accordingly, to utilize the *Family Car Trip* mindset - "Alright, everyone, we're heading to Madrid E Free for worship service. Please use the restroom before we go!" The water fountains will be off limits.
- Please arrive for the worship service no earlier than 9:45 AM. As you arrive and are entering the building, please be patient and maintain at least 6 feet apart from another family unit. Just remember that you will need to enter the building and go directly to your seats so take that in consideration.

Please watch the video on the homepage of our website to provide you a little more guidance and parents, we ask that you please have your children watch the video with you, as well as sharing with them the expectations of returning to public worship services.