

Safety Procedures for In-Person Events and Services

June 2, 2021

We want to ease any nerves and make our gatherings as safe as possible. We do not just want to appear safe, we want to be safe!

Understanding the Risk

The virus that causes COVID-19 spreads in several ways, including through droplets when a person coughs or sneezes, and from touching a contaminated surface before touching the face. Higher risk situations require adequate protocols to address the risk.

The risk of person-to-person transmission is increased the closer you come to other people, with the amount of time you spend near them, and the number of people you come near. Physical distancing measures help mitigate this risk.

The risk of surface transmission is increased when many people contact the same surface, and when those contacts happen in short intervals of time. Effective cleaning and hygiene practices help mitigate this risk.

Safe Distancing Traffic Flow

Visitors will enter the building using a pre-determined entrance. One visitor or family group at a time will be directed into the building at a time. Upon exit, visitors will exit through a separate pre-determined exit door and will be required to maintain safe distance as they leave. Volunteers will monitor this process to make sure students follow directions and restrictions.

Capacity/Seating

A reservation system will be used for all in-person gatherings, and spots are limited. A distance of 6 feet between people will be maintained through directional signs and numbered pews to allow for safe social distancing when in the sanctuary. If a meeting does not occur in the sanctuary, seating will be set up in advance in such a way as to promote social distancing.

Common Areas

Masks will be required in all common areas, and seating will be arranged to facilitate safe social distance from other. Social interaction will be conducted (as much as possible) with space provided to socially distance.

Sanitation/High Touch Surfaces

All common and high-touch surfaces will be wiped down by the custodial team and volunteers prior to and following an in-person gathering, and students will be asked to wash their hands or sanitize frequently.

Sanitization Stations

There will be sanitization stations where everyone will be required to sanitize their hands before they enter the church building, enter or exit the sanctuary, and where touching surfaces or doors are required.

Face Coverings

All visitors, staff and volunteers *12 years and up* will be required to wear a face covering at all times as they enter the building, unless they qualify for exception (in the case of health-related restrictions). If they do not arrive with a mask, we will provide a medical mask at arrival. This information will be communicated to the students on the night-of, as well as through social media and Calvary Staff email updates.

Those children under the age of 12 will not be required to wear a face covering but are welcome to do so.

Contact Tracing

Information will be collected with the reservation system (through online rsvp forms). At arrival, visitors will be required to check-in with the appointed volunteer. **Instead of performing COVID-19 screenings each time a student enters the building, we are asking all participants in an event (including leaders) to complete a self-assessment and contact tracing form on the day of an event and prior to their arrival at the church.** We also ask that if symptoms arise during, or after a gathering/event they be immediately reported to the office at Calvary Baptist Church. If there are privacy concerns, we ask that symptoms are reported to the public health authority immediately. If Calvary Baptist becomes aware of an outbreak, information will be immediately reported to the public health authority. Calvary Baptist ensures that we are taking the safety of our staff members, volunteers, and students very seriously and we are committed to complying and following all provincial health orders.

Screening/Exclusion Policy

Everyone will be asked to complete a short self-assessment form through our website prior to arrival on the day of the event. If they are unable, or have forgotten, an assessment will be completed upon check-in.

High Risk Individual

We encourage students who are at high risk for disease, or who are living with individuals who are at high risk, to consider staying home; instead, joining us every second week for online youth nights.

Food Service

A designated volunteer will sanitize their hands, wear gloves, and a mask when distributing food or drinks. All food and drinks will be individually packaged. Physical distancing is required at all times, this includes groups of students lining up for food.

Physical Contact

No physical contact between visitors, volunteers or staff during the remainder of the Pandemic.

We have informed and equipped our volunteers to abide by and enforce stated safety measures as we meet in person. Please encourage those around you to respect the decisions and directions of volunteers in order to ensure a safe and fun event!