



Rev. Thomas Moore
District Superintendent

(850) 482.2986
supt@wfldag.org

West Florida DCA Church Reopen Plan for Youth/Children's Ministries

The following is the reopening plan adopted by the West Florida District Presbytery for all District Council Affiliated churches concerning Youth/Children's Ministries. The date for reopening our D.C.A. Churches' Youth/Children's Ministry will be September 13, 2020. This plan will apply to Sunday School, Children's Church, and Wednesday Night Youth/Children's events for all children Pre-K age and above. A plan for Nursery services is also attached. These plans may also be used as a template for General Council Affiliated churches and can be considered the District's minimal recommendations for reopening or relaunching Youth/Children's Ministries in a G.C.A. church. We fully appreciate the fact that:

- Some churches will choose not to reopen these ministries at this time.
- No pastor should feel rushed to reopen these ministries.
- If you are not ready, do not reopen!

As most counties have reopened schools, we feel it is time to begin reopening our D.C.A. churches' Youth/Children's Ministries. Please note, all D.C.A. Church Youth/Children's Ministries MUST adhere to all CDC guidelines, as well as those of state and local authorities, as it relates to Covid-19. Local school boards have set forth guidelines and implemented plans for the students in their area. We will do our best to follow the standards they set as it relates to the safety, sanitation, and reporting of any illnesses.

The safety of all our attendees is of utmost importance to our team. We especially want to protect all children as well as the elderly and those most vulnerable to infection.

Reopen Plan for Youth/Children's Ministries

To ensure the safety of all children while attending one of our D.C.A. churches, our team is focusing on the following:

1. Room Capacities
2. Touchless Check-In and Check-Out Systems
3. Personal Hygiene: Hand Washing, Gloves, etc.
4. Sanitation: Toys, Bathrooms, and High Contact Areas
5. Well Policy: Strictly Enforce

Room Capacities:

In order to comply with social distancing guidelines:

- Classes will be limited to the room's maximum capacity with keeping in line with CDC guidelines where students remain six feet apart.
- Each child will have their own seat.
- Seats will be at least 6 feet apart.
- Children will be asked to stay at their seat throughout the service, including game time, worship time, and altar time.
- All service activities will be "no contact".

Check In and Check Out Systems:

- If possible, to limit congested areas, use separate entrance and exit doors for Children's Church/Youth services.
- If possible, allow time prior to check in to use strict social distancing between students checking in.
- Upon exiting, please escort children to their parents without parents entering the Children's Church area.

Personal Hygiene:

- A hand sanitizing station will be set up at all entrances.
- All leaders/assistants/students WILL sanitize their hands prior to entering the service.
- All leaders and assistants must wash and sanitize their hands upon arrival and before/after each bathroom use.
- In addition, all leaders and assistants who will be serving snacks MUST wear gloves while serving. Only "store-bought," individually wrapped snacks should be used.

- **ALL leaders and assistants WILL BE REQUIRED to wear a mask for check in/check out and escorting students. Masks are not required for preaching/teaching sessions (unless required by local authorities), but should be worn when in close proximity to students.**

Sanitation:

- **All classrooms, bathrooms, toys, surfaces, and any other equipment used will be sanitized after each session or service with CDC recommended products.**

Well Policy:

- **A “Well Policy” means that anyone who is not feeling well, anyone with a pending Covid-19 test, has any symptoms, or anyone who has been exposed to sick individuals, should not attend any gathering or meeting. This WILL be strictly enforced!**
- **ANY leader, volunteer, or student who has exhibited symptoms of being sick (fever, cough, runny nose, vomiting, diarrhea, headache, etc.), or has been exposed to anyone who has, in the last two weeks, should NOT attend.**
- **Temperature checks are recommended if possible.**
- **All Parents/Guardians of children who attend will be asked to complete the “Covid-19 Infection Control Procedure Parental Agreement”. (See attached form)**
- **All Staff/Volunteers/Leaders who attend will be asked to complete the “Covid-19 Infection Control Procedure Staff/Volunteer/Leader Agreement”. (See attached form)**

Each church should predetermine a room to be used as an isolation room should a child become sick while participating in a service or gathering.

Each church should use the “Suspected Covid-19 Case Checklist” (see attached form) should a staff member, volunteer, leader, or student show any signs of infection, including a positive test of an asymptomatic individual.

Reopen Plan for Nursery Ministry

Room Capacities:

In order to comply with social distancing guidelines:

- Classes will be limited to the room's maximum capacity with keeping in line with CDC guidelines where students remain six feet apart.
- While these protocols are difficult to enforce with small children, due diligence should be done to keep as much space as possible between the children.

Check In and Check Out Systems:

- If possible, to limit congested areas, it is recommended to use separate entrance and exit doors for nursery check-in.
- If possible, allow time prior to check in to use strict social distancing between parents and children checking in.
- No parent/guardian will be allowed to enter the Nursery area.

Personal Hygiene:

- A hand sanitizing station will be set up at all entrances.
- All leaders and assistants WILL sanitize their hands prior to entering the Nursery.
- All leaders and assistants MUST wash and sanitize their hands after each diaper change and after each bathroom use.
- All leaders and assistants MUST wear clean gloves while doing diaper changes.
- All leaders and assistants who will be serving snacks MUST wear gloves while serving.
- ALL leaders and assistants WILL BE REQUIRED to wear a mask for check in/check out time. Masks should be worn by leaders and assistants when in close proximity to students.

Sanitation:

- All nurseries, bathrooms, toys, surfaces, and any other equipment used will be sanitized after each session or service with CDC recommended products.

Well Policy:

- A “Well Policy” means that anyone who is not feeling well, anyone with a pending Covid-19 test, has any symptoms, or anyone who has been exposed to sick individuals should not attend any gathering or meeting. This WILL be strictly enforced!
- ANY leader, volunteer, or child who has exhibited symptoms of being sick (fever, cough, runny nose, vomiting, diarrhea, headache, etc.), or has been exposed to anyone who has, in the last two weeks, should NOT attend.
- Temperature checks are recommended if possible.
- All parents/guardians of children who are placed in the Nursery will be asked to complete the “Covid-19 Infection Control Procedure Parental Agreement”. (See attached form)
- All staff/volunteers/leaders who work in the Nursery will be asked to complete the “Covid-19 Infection Control Procedure Staff/Volunteer/Leader Agreement”. (See attached form)

Each church should predetermine a room to be used as an isolation room should a child become sick while participating in a service or gathering.

Each church should use the “Suspected Covid-19 Case Checklist” (see attached form) should a staff member, volunteer, leader, or student, show any signs of infection, including a positive test of an asymptomatic individual.

Suspected COVID-19 Case Checklist

Date: _____

Location: _____

Leader: _____

1. If a student becomes ill:

- Notify the parent/guardian ASAP to come pick up the student.
- The student should be immediately separated from other students and leaders. (Students should be escorted by leaders and not other students.)

2. If COVID-19 is confirmed in student or staff member:

- Close off areas used by the person who is sick.
Notes:
- Contact a West Florida District Official immediately.
Notes:
- Contact the local County Health Department.
Notes:
- Clean/sanitize the area the child was in with CDC approved cleaning products.
Notes:

COVID-19/INFECTION CONTROL PROCEDURE PARENTAL AGREEMENT

During an infectious disease outbreak, church gatherings are particularly vulnerable. The West Florida District is working hard to limit opportunities for infection through recommended mitigation strategies. Parents/Guardians play the most vital role in our success when it comes to our student ministries. We must work together to limit the chances for infections to spread by not allowing your child to attend church if they are sick. We ask Parents/Guardians to prescreen their child for symptoms that indicate a contagious disease. Please be diligent in monitoring your child so we can provide the safest place possible for them to worship.

As a Parent/Guardian of _____,
I agree to not send my child to church if they exhibit any of the following symptoms:

- Fever (without medications)
- Vomiting
- Diarrhea
- Shortness of breath
- Headache
- Cough or respiratory symptoms such as sore throat or runny nose
- Close contact with someone with Covid-19/other infectious disease
- I further agree to notify the Pastor if my child, or anyone in my household, test positive for Covid-19 or any other infectious disease, if my child has been in attendance at a service at _____ Church over the past 14 days.

Print Name

Date: _____

Signature

COVID-19/INFECTION CONTROL PROCEDURE STAFF/VOLUNTEER LEADER AGREEMENT

During an infectious disease outbreak, church gatherings are particularly vulnerable. The West Florida District is working hard to limit opportunities for infection through recommended mitigation strategies. Staff/Volunteers/Leaders play a vital role in our success when it comes to our student ministries. We must work together to limit the chances for infections to spread by not attending church if we are sick. We ask Staff/Volunteers/Leaders to prescreen for symptoms that indicate a contagious disease. Please be diligent in monitoring your health so we can provide the safest place possible for our students to worship.

As a Staff/Volunteer/Leader of _____, I agree to not attend church if I exhibit any of the following symptoms:

- Fever (without medications)
- Vomiting
- Diarrhea
- Shortness of breath
- Cough or respiratory symptoms such as sore throat or runny nose
- Headache
- Close contact with someone with Covid-19/other infectious disease
- I further agree to notify the Pastor if I, or anyone in my household, test positive for Covid-19 or any other infectious disease, if I have been in attendance at a service at the church over the past 14 days.

Print Name

Date: _____

Signature