

Connection Pointe Church Re-opening Policies

You can skip to the bottom to see a shortened version:

Connection Pointe family, can you believe that one year ago we embarked on a journey that was simply supposed to be 15 days to flatten the curve? Those 15 days turned into 12 long months of varying degrees of lockdowns and varieties of mandates. We have done our best over this time to keep you updated and to flow with the regulations as needed to keep everyone safe and still be able to worship together. God has been so faithful to each of us.

As vaccines continue to roll out and good reports keep coming in, we are once again pivoting to do what seems best for us to have freedom of worship and safety in gathering. We are going to continue with safe practices of cleaning and sanitizing stations while encouraging those in attendance to come however they feel comfortable. We are grateful for every opportunity we have to worship together and to gather for encouragement and teaching. Right now, we need each other more than ever before. So, we have developed a new policy for attending in person.

We are basing our re-opening policy on Romans 12:10-11. We have 2 mandates that we are balancing in our policy: The mandate to worship the Lord in freedom and sincerity of heart and the mandate to love and honor each other above our own preferences. There is a strong emotional response to this matter on all sides, but we are People of God who are ruled by His Spirit rather by our emotions.

Love each other deeply. Honor others more than yourselves. Never let the fire in your heart go out. Keep it alive. (Romans 12:10-11).

Our desire is that everyone be able to attend in person so that we can worship in Pentecostal freedom while feeling safe and accepted. We also understand that medical conditions still make that impossible for many. We will continue to provide the same quality online service so that no one is left out. In fact, we will continue to work to make the experience better and to create a better connection for each one at home.

We strongly believe that each person's opinion about the virus, masks, and their health is very personal and to be honored. We have not based and do not base our policy in fear, but instead in respect and deference to one another. We do not judge your decision in either direction, recognizing that many feel an obligation to wear a mask and distance, others feel an oppression in wearing a mask and distancing, and many more fall somewhere in the middle. This is okay. And again, we reiterate that we respect each one's thoughts and decisions. With this said, below is the policy for the month of March for masks, distancing, and in person attendance. We will re-evaluate and communicate every 2 - 3 weeks moving forward for a while.

Screening: We will continue a measure of screening as you enter the door. There will still be the option to sign in as you enter so that you can be notified of any health concerns that arose during your time with us. During this screening, you will be given the option to wear a sticker as described below. If you have a runny nose, productive or persistent cough, fever, or other symptoms, we ask that you worship with us online.

Physical Distancing: Please respect each person's space. A proper gesture of respect is remaining 6 feet away from others unless you are invited to come closer. To help with this process, we will give you the option to wear a sticker as you enter the door:

Green - I want personal contact and close interaction and am not susceptible to getting sick. I have no reservations.

Yellow - I am comfortable with a handshake or a fist bump, but not with hugging or close talking. I have some reservations about giving or receiving the virus from others.

Red - I am not comfortable with any contact from others. Please respect my space and do not interact with me without a mask and some distance. I have some serious reservations about giving or receiving the virus from others. (I may have some grave underlying health conditions, but I want to worship in person with my family).

None - I do not want to wear a sticker so please ask me before approaching.

Masks: Please respect those who might be at risk by wearing a mask in tight, public areas such as the foyer. This said, masks are preferred, but not required. The decision to wear or to not wear a mask is each person's decision, but the choice to honor other's decision more than yourself is required for us all. So, without judging each other's decision, we ask that you honor each other by wearing the mask when closer than 6 feet to others unless outside or in a group of exclusively green stickers. We only ask that you try to pay attention to those around you so that our most vulnerable are cared for.

Worship Services: The seating in the rooms will continue to be spread out so that everyone with a yellow or red sticker can feel comfortable worshipping with us.

Prayer and Altar: The staff and elders who pray for others will wear a face shield or mask while praying for others and the contact and anointing will be determined by the sticker the person receiving ministry is wearing. Hands will be sanitized between each person being ministered to as well. Communion will continue to be served in a safe, sanitary manner. We ask that everyone be mindful of what they have touched and what they touch after (eyes, nose, mouth, cups, etc.) so that we do not spread germs.

Staff and Elders: We will continue to be held to a higher standard and will continue to endeavor to show everyone honor and respect while giving everyone as much freedom in worship expression as possible. If you would like prayer or ministry at your house, we would be honored to accept your invitation.

Food: Food and drinks will still be served with the highest health standards. We will continue with training and will continue to endeavor to be a safe place to fellowship with food and drink. However, there will be no donuts or coffee on Sunday mornings until further notice. All other food served will be done in a way to reduce contact and potential spread of germs.

This week we are having a party to celebrate a new time and a new season as we say “Hello, Spring!”. We are wearing green and serving green pancakes before service and during the beginning of service. We are encouraging our online family to post pictures of your food and green clothing. This will not only be a fun time of celebration, but it will be a powerful time of worship and transformation through the Word and ministry in the altar. Get ready to meet with God and each other in a celebration of God’s majesty and freedom. See you Sunday!

In His Peace,
Pastor Mike

Shortened Version

Our goal in this policy is to:

- honor the mandate to worship the Lord in freedom and sincerity of heart
- honor the mandate to love and honor each other above our own preferences

Love each other deeply. Honor others more than yourselves. Never let the fire in your heart go out. Keep it alive. (Romans 12:10-11).

Policy Highlights:

- Sticker System
 - At the door you may choose to wear a sticker or not
 - Green sticker – I am open to close, personal contact
 - Yellow sticker – I would like to maintain 6 feet of distance, but I am okay with some forms of contact (fist/elbow bump, etc.)
 - Red sticker – I would like no physical contact, please maintain 6 feet of distance
- Screening
 - We will screen at the door
 - You may sign in to be notified of any potential exposure
- Physical Distancing
 - Please respect others by maintaining 6 feet of distance unless you both have green stickers
- Masks
 - Masks are highly encouraged, but not required
 - Please consider wearing masks in tight spaces and when around people with yellow and red stickers in order to honor one another
- Worship Services
 - Seating will continue to be spread out
- Prayer and Altars
 - Prayer partners will wear a mask or face shield
 - Contact and anointing oil use will be determined by the sticker being worn by the person requesting prayer
- Staff/Elders
 - We commit to a higher standard of honor toward our church family
- Food
 - We will continue to serve food in a safe manner
 - We will continue to not serve coffee and donuts on Sunday