

RENTON



Seventh-Day Adventist Church

Changed By Christ To Change The World

May 26, 2020

Dear church family,

Eleven weeks ago, I wrote you with the news we were closing the church to public meetings due to Covid-19. Today I am writing you with news about our plan to reopen the building and relaunch our ministry.

Below is a tentative plan for reopening Renton developed by the elders, Return-to-Church (RTC) Task Force, and the church board in accordance with guidance provided by [state and local governments](#), and the [Washington Conference](#).

You've likely already seen the [video announcement](#) of our phased approach to reopening. If not, you can view it on our [rentonadventist.org](#) website, and on our FaceBook page. Here's an overview of the plan.

Phase 1 is what we're doing right now. Worship is online only; Sabbath School and vespers are online only. No in-person gatherings right now during Phase 1.

Phase 2 which could begin June 1st, is not that different from Phase 1. Groups of 5 or less outside of your immediate family can gather in person for a Bible study, etc., but not on campus. Under Phase 2 the church office will be open on a limited, as-needed basis, but all adult and children's services remain online only.

Phase 3 is where it gets exciting. We will continue to offer Sabbath School online as well as the worship service, but we will be able to open the doors for up to 50 persons **on or around June 20**. This is dependent on whether King Country meets the criteria for moving into Phase 3. There will still be no children's ministry offered on campus during this phase unless it is an outdoor gathering. The church office will resume a regular schedule. Prayer Meeting could resume with appropriate social distancing and other precautions in place.

In **Phase 4** we will continue our online Sabbath School and Worship experience, but now we can open to **more than 50**. children's ministry resumes and Fellowship meals resume. The tentative date for this is **July 11**.

Even now, volunteers are prepping the church for your safe re-entry. Here's what we are doing to meet health and safety precautions required for corporate gatherings:

- We ENCOURAGE all members who are in an [at-risk category](#) to stay home and join our online services!
- All family units will be seated 6 feet away from each other.
- Every other row will be roped off and family units asked to keep 3 seats in between.
- Ushers and Greeters will wear masks and gloves. (Face coverings should be worn by all except infants.)
- The sanctuary will be dismissed by rows and not all at once.
- Doors will be opened so that members do not need to touch door handles.

- Offering will be taking digitally or through offering boxes in the foyer that are not touched.
- The church and bathrooms will be sanitized before services.
- Hand sanitizing stations will be available in visible and strategic places.
- No food or drink will be served.

Please plan to watch a special Live-stream Town Hall meeting with some of our own health care professionals to answer your questions about Covid-19 and our safety procedures on **June 6 at 5:00**.

Please keep in mind that this is an ever-changing situation, and we all have to be flexible and open to additional changes to the attached plan. We will share more specific details/dates as Governor Inslee announces that we have entered a new phase.

Know that we're excited to see you all again and continue to pray and support one another as we prepare not just to resume, but to relaunch our Renton church ministry on, or around, June 20th.

In Him,

Randy Maxwell

Pastor, Renton SDA Church

