

September 2020  
First United Methodist Church, West Allis  
**Reopening FIRST UMC Building – PHASE FOUR**  
Frequently Asked Questions/Talking Points  
Posted on August 25, 2020

**PARKING LOT WORSHIP PARTICIPANTS**

June – 118 Participants  
July – 102 Participants  
August – 104 Participants

**What is PHASE FOUR?**

Phase FOUR is a **Worship Service in Fellowship Hall during the month of September 2020**  
– Three Sundays.

September 6 – No Service. Online Worship will be available. *The first children's sermon was given on September 6, 1889. In celebration of 131 years of Children's Sermons, Pastor Sam and Shanti will go LIVE on church FB at 10:00 am for a 30-minute devotion for kids and all. Please plan to join.*

September 13, 20, 27 – Worship Service in Fellowship Hall

**How many services each Sunday?**

Each Sunday there will be ONE service at 10:00 am. The service will last approximately 30 minutes.

**Can I come every Sunday?**

No, you may sign up for only two Sundays (select from THREE Sundays) to allow for all to participate.

**How many worshippers are allowed at each Sunday Fellowship Hall Worship Service?**

A maximum of 30 worshippers will be allowed (in addition to the worship team and volunteers).

**How can I participate in Phase Four?**

You must sign up through (1) the online form OR (2) church Facebook OR (3) BAND App OR (4) church website OR (5) calling the church office OR (6) mailing the sign-up form to the church office. All sign ups must be completed by Thursday noon each week prior to the Sunday of participation. Sign up will be available after August 27. Please call the church office for further information.

### **What will the Fellowship Hall Worship Service look like?**

When you enter the parking lot, the ushers will direct to a parking space (cars will be parked one space apart), then please walk into Fellowship Hall through the parking lot entrance door. **This will be the only entrance that is to be used.** You will be directed by the ushers.

**Please note:** For those who need the elevator, an usher will be at the elevator entrance to assist you.

Chairs will be set up (spaced 6 foot apart) in Fellowship Hall and ushers will seat you.

You will receive a printed bulletin with hymns, Scripture, and other prayers. Hymnals and Bibles will not be available.

Pastor Sam (and other worship leaders) will lead the worship service from the stage.

At the end of the service you will be dismissed by rows as directed by the ushers. Please remain seated until the usher directs you to exit.

### **Will Online Worship continue?**

Yes, online recorded worship continues and will be published on Saturday at 6:00 pm. It will be available throughout the week via church Facebook, YouTube, and the church website.

### **Can I bring my family, neighbors or relatives who are not members of First UMC?**

Yes, provided they follow the guidelines and abide by the procedures. All worship services are open to all people.

### **Who will be there to assist?**

Pastor Sam, ushers, Organist Alyssa, Song Leader Raymond Roberts, Nurse Pat, and other volunteers.

### **Will there be a screening process?**

There will not be a screening process. If you feel sick, you are asked not to attend the service.

Worshippers will be seated on the church provided chairs in Fellowship Hall.

All are required to wear a mask throughout the entire service, from entry to exit.

Ushers will guide the worshippers to their chairs.

Social distancing between chairs will be maintained.

There will be NO handshakes, hugs, and fellowship time, but you can wave or smile at church friends. Extended conversations are to be avoided before, during, and after the service.

Sanitizing, spacing, mask wearing, and other health requirements will be strictly followed and required.

### **Can I bring my offering?**

Yes, you may bring your offering and drop it in a basket at the time of exit.

### **How is the safety of health guaranteed?**

All volunteers including the worship team will wear masks and gloves. Sanitizing before and disinfecting after measures will be strictly adhered to and followed. Pat Nurse is the primary consultant.

### **What if I cannot attend the service that I signed up for due to illness, etc.?**

If you are not able to attend the service, please call the church office (774-5500) and leave a message on Sunday morning or as soon as you know so that your reserved seat can be offered to another member who is interested in attending that Sunday's service.

### **When do we plan to return to the sanctuary?**

Phase FIVE is being prayerfully and thoughtfully planned. We need to move forward carefully and cautiously. We will communicate the plans and preparations when ready. As a church, we need to help control the virus and prevent deaths. Reopening does not mean that we will return to normal as we knew it, this most likely will not be for a quite a while. We are called to be people that care for all, especially for the most vulnerable members of our Faith Community. We appreciate your continued patience and support. We are grateful for the faith of our members as they worship at home and for the blessings that will come when we one day will gather for worship and activities.

### **Who are the contact persons?**

Dave Affeldt, Chair, Church Council  
John Harrits, Lay Leader  
Sam Royappa, Lead Pastor  
Church Office

### **What are the responsibilities of worshippers?**

- Sign up for attending the service before Thursday noon prior to the Sunday participating
- Check-in at least 10 minutes before the service begins – around 9:50 am
- Wear a mask, use vinyl gloves, and have hand sanitizer
- No close contact with others before, during, and after the service
- Always follow social distancing guidelines-avoid being within six feet of others
- Follow the ushers directions for entry and exit
- Church restrooms in Fellowship Hall are available only if an absolute necessity
- Prevention, patience, support, and cooperation are appreciated
- Let us show “acts of kindness” in, for, and with all
- Promote these worship opportunities with our church members and others

Online Worship Planning Team: - *Dave Affeldt, Deb Semrad, Patty Zerneke, Alyssa Roberts, Raymond Roberts, and Pastor Sam Royappa*