

# crossroads circuit rider



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# Plans to Reopen



# September 27

September 2020 No. E-20-e

## Covid-19 Brings Many Changes

Please read this newsletter carefully because there are many new policies that we must abide by in order to be in compliance with the Bishop's guidelines for reopening the church for in-person worship!

### Plans for In-Person Worship Sunday, September 27, 2020

Crossroads UMC is having **in-person worship** on **Sunday, September 27, 2020**. Worship will begin at **11:00 AM** and everyone is asked to be in their seats by this time. This may mean getting to church 15-20 minutes before eleven to make time for checking in and finding a seat.

There is a very stringent set of guidelines for UMC congregations to follow when reopening. This is what your **Healthy Church Team** must follow when reopening the church at this time, and what you must follow to be allowed to worship together. If everyone does not abide by these guidelines, then in-person worship will have to be curtailed.

### Volunteers are Needed

Volunteers are needed in various capacities to help make this reopening run smoothly. The volunteers are asked to meet in front of the sanctuary on Tuesday, September 22 at 6:30 PM. Assignments will be given out and instructions will be shared. Thank you for helping your HCT.

### Proper Parking



**When parking** in the parking lot on Rodman or on the grass by Greenway Ct, leave six feet between your car and others. Imagine leaving a car space between your car and the next. Put your mask on before exiting your car. Be aware of others around you and keep 6 feet away when exiting your car on your way to the church building.

## Everyone Is Asked to Register with the Church in Advance\*\**see below.*

There is a **Health Acknowledgement Form** for everyone to fill out. You can fill it out online and it will automatically be sent to your church/pastor. You can use the link <https://www.evc.vaumc.org/home/>. The deadline for submitting this electronic form is the Saturday before Sunday's worship. If you need a paper form, click on the Covid-19 form attached here; print it out, fill it out and bring it with you to Sunday's service. If you do not have access to a computer or smart phone, you can answer the health questions when you get to church. There will be a registration table out front for this purpose. It is hoped most people will do this ahead of time so as to not delay the church starting on time.

### **\*\*Step by Step How to Register Online for Sunday Worship:**

<https://www.evc.vaumc.org/open/worshipregistration/Index.cfm>

Click on green button --- **"Continue to Form"**

Select Your Church --- Click on the drop-down list box and choose **"Elizabeth River"** and then press **"next"**

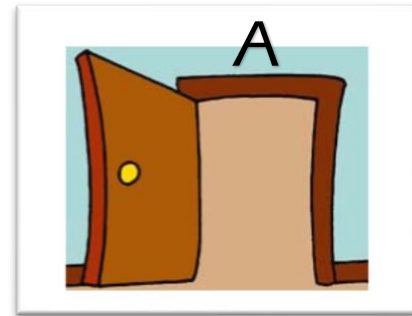
Click on the drop-down list box and choose **"Crossroads UMC In Portsmouth"** and then press **"continue to step 2"**

Fill in **Your Name and Contact Info** --- You might like to choose "yes" for question that asks, *"Would you like an email reminding you to sign-up for Worship?"* and then press **"continue to step 3"**

Click "yes" or "no" to the **Health Questionnaire** questions and submit

## Registration Upon Arrival **IF** You Do Not Have Access to a Computer

There will be a table set up outside the front doors and the side door to check you in. If your name is not on the **preregistration list**, then you will be asked to verify concerning your health. You must be wearing a mask! If an individual does not follow the rules and regulations set out by our Bishop, that individual will be asked to leave. If the non-complying individual refuses to leave, the gathering will immediately end, and everyone will be asked to leave the church property.



### Entrance Doors will be Labeled - A, B, C, D -

There will be **Entrance and Exit doors** marked. The doors will be marked **A, B, C, & D**. The narthex will be roped off inside so no one can change "lanes" once they enter building. The far-left door will be A, the left-middle door will be B, the right-middle door will be C, and the far-right door will be D. You know where you are more comfortable sitting so use the door that will most easily take you to your area. The door to the restroom hallway will also be labeled. The left door is for those sitting in A & B. The right door is for those sitting in C & D. When it is time to leave, Pastor Camille will dismiss the sections A, B, C, & D. Please pay attention and adhere to this.

### Look out for the Blue Tape - No Sitting There -

In the Sanctuary, everyone must sit at least **6 feet apart**, unless you are from the same household. The pews not being used will be well marked with **blue tape**. You are not allowed to sit where pews have been marked off with the blue tape. You may not have the pew you are used to sitting in at this time. If you have any questions, your Ushers will assist you.



Review your own health using the form mentioned above and do a **temperature check** at home on Sunday morning. On the day of the service your temperature should not be above **100.4 degrees**. If it is, stay home!

## Be Prepared – Wear Your Mask...



Bring your own **face covering** (mandatory), hand sanitizer (if you feel you need it), and gloves (if you feel you need them). Make sure your mask is on before exiting your car.

Because of breathing through masks, the sanctuary temperature may be set to a cooler temp. You might want to come prepared by **bringing a jacket or sweater**.

## Offering Box will be at Each Entrance

There will be a common box set out for **your offering**. Two will be located in the Narthex, clearly marked. There will also be an offering receptacle on the table by the back-side door. The plate will not be passed during the service. You are asked to give your offering when you come into the building.

## Sorry, No Socializing with a Body Touch

We have missed each other, and our first tendency will be to **give each other a hug. NO!** We cannot greet each other with a hug, a handshake, or with any "body touch". A wave, a heart sign with hands, a bow, a hearty "glad to see you" will have to suffice at this time.

## Bathrooms are Cleaned and Ready for Use

**Bathrooms** on the ground floor in the sanctuary building have been cleaned. Anyone may use them if needed. Remember to use your Door Designation of A, B, C, or D when you go to the bathroom and especially when you come back. We are trying to keep people from passing closely as they go back and forth to their seat.

## Other Changes to be Aware Of...

There will be **no paper bulletins handed out**. Everything needed for the worship service will be projected on the wall for your convenience.

Sorry to say we are not allowed to have **congregational singing** at this time. Harlan Zackery will provide us with exceptional music on the piano.

There will be **no nursery or children's church** during the reopening services. We will let you know when those will resume.

## Service Can be Watched on Facebook

The service will be recorded and available on our **Facebook page** after the service is completed. This can be found at [www.facebook.com/CrossroadsUnitedMethodistChurchPortsmouth](http://www.facebook.com/CrossroadsUnitedMethodistChurchPortsmouth)

## If you have any questions, contact a member of your Healthy Church Team

Camille Pentsil = Pastor

Susan Cohen = Lay Leader

Sidney Goldblatt = Trustee

Tricia Bright = Church Council

Mark Goldman = Medical Personnel

Jay Wright = Attorney

Tom Boettcher = Usher

Ellen Comstock = Outside Consultant

