Uptown Baptist Church Reopening Plan

Phase 1 - Begins May 31st

- Continue our current YouTube ministry online model with the exception of allowing the whole worship team to come in for the music part

Phase 2 - Tentatively July 19. At least two weeks from the start date of phase 1, when permissible by local, federal and state rules, in compliance with CDC recommendations for faith-based institutions and there is “No significant trend” in rising cases in Chicago Cook County area

https://www.dph.illinois.gov/covid19/covid19-statistics

- Max 50 people in the sanctuary, - masks mandatory / temperature testing, seated by ushers, following 6ft social distancing guidelines. Overflow entry through gym area (additional 25 possible)
- Vulnerable persons up to 25 people in gym - masks mandatory / temperature testing, seated by ushers, following 6ft social distancing guidelines or continue to stay home watching live stream
- Social distancing guides, such as tape on floors or walkways and signs on walls, to ensure that staff and children remain at least 6 feet apart in lines and at other times
- Lord Supper and offering procedures that reduce hand to hand contact. (Prepacked LS items on chairs in the sanctuary. Offering can be put into mail slot when entering the church or dropped off in receptacles when exiting the church building)
- Welcome Team at doors, but door propped open (weather permitting to increase circulation of outdoor air as much as possible)
- Remove hymnals, Bibles and do not use bulletins or other handouts.
- Encourage people to bring their own masks and hand sanitizer however we will have hand sanitizer machines at entrances and extra masks available.
- Encourage people to use the bathrooms only for emergency only
- Continue daily prayer meetings
• No nursery or children’s church ministries
• No Sunday or weekday small groups
• Disinfecting protocols including disinfecting after the service and deep cleaning during the week

Phase 3 – At least two weeks from the start date of phase 2, when permissible by local, federal and state rules, in compliance with CDC recommendations for faith-based institutions and there is “No significant trend” in rising cases in Chicago Cook County area
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• Remove 50 person capacity limit from main sanctuary and relax the distancing requirements
• Vulnerable persons up to 25 people in gym - masks mandatory / temperature testing, seated by ushers, following social distancing guidelines or continue to stay home watching live stream
• Continue Lord Supper and offering procedures that reduce hand to hand contact
• Welcome Team at doors but door propped open (weather permitting to increase circulation of outdoor air as much as possible)
• Remove hymnals, Bibles and do not use bulletins or other handouts.
• Encourage people to bring their own masks and hand sanitizer however we will have hand sanitizer machines at entrances and extra masks available.
• Encourage people to use the bathrooms only for emergency only
• Continue daily prayer meetings
• No Sunday or weekday small groups
• No nursery or children’s church ministries
• Disinfecting protocols including disinfecting after the service and deep cleaning during the week

Phase 4 – At least two weeks from the start date of phase 3, when permissible by local, federal and state rules, in compliance with CDC recommendations for faith-based institutions and there is “No significant trend” in rising cases in Chicago Cook County area
https://www.dph.illinois.gov/covid19/covid19-statistics

• Vulnerable Populations have the option to continue to stay home watching live stream

Uptown Baptist Church
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• Sunday and weekday small groups can begin
• Nursery and children’s ministries can begin
• Encourage hand washing (hand sanitizer stations available).
• Continue daily prayer meetings
• Disinfecting protocols including disinfecting after the service and deep cleaning during the week

These plans are based on the available information as of the last week in June 2020. They may be altered at any time based on new information and requirements.

Resources

https://coronavirus.illinois.gov/s/restore-illinois-phase-4
https://kenbraddy.com/2020/04/18/20-questions-your-church-should-answer-before-people-return/
https://kenbraddy.com/2020/04/22/reopening-the-church-4-phases-for-an-orderly-return/