



Reopen Team Update

6/27/2020

Oh my, a lot has happened since we last updated you about the Re-open Team. Here are just a few:

- A sharp increase in Covid-19 cases in states where restrictions have been relaxed
- Virus outbreaks in Major League Baseball training camps
- Limited openings in Michigan has many people not wearing masks in public
- 5,000 new cases reported in one day in Florida
- 76 known cases all related to Harper's Bar in East Lansing over a 10 day period
- Governor Whitmer and Bishop Bard relax restrictions about face to face meetings inside and outside
- Our church insurance company has issued guidelines for facility use

Make no mistake, we are not the "Keep it Closed Team". Every meeting we evaluate or reevaluate the large number of guidelines that govern what is acceptable and not acceptable for places of worship in Michigan.

Our Team consists of members from both churches and is a true collaborative effort.

The items above represent a real mix of good news and bad news. While we are making progress with a fewer number of cases than a month ago, the numbers still show an unacceptable level of community transmission. We have discovered that all the guidelines agree on one item – high-risk congregations like ours must exercise more diligence than others as we take responsibility for the health and welfare of our church family.

After a great deal of debate, the Team has elected to keep the current restrictions in place.

Because of the rapid changing situation, we have also decided to start meeting every two weeks.

Remember: face-to-face church gatherings of any kind are still prohibited until further notice.

The Reopen Team will continue to meet and review all the latest information in order to publish a plan to keep you all safe.

If you have input for our Team please feel free to contact Matt or me at jpjackson5@gmail.com.

For the Reopen Team,

Jim Jackson, chair, Gunnisonville

Janel Ingram, co-chair, Bath