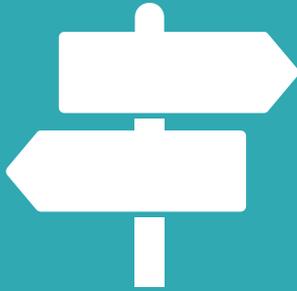


FPCNYC REOPENING

Proposed Date:
May 23rd, 2021
Pentecost Sunday



Prepared for the Session of
the First Presbyterian Church
in the City of New York



Sources

As of April 21st

- NY DOH interim guidelines for religious institutions
- University of Colorado aerosol study for performing arts
- Harlem Gunness, PhD. MPH, Director and Assoc. Prof. at St. John's University. Master of Public Health Program. Dep. of Pharmacy Admin and Public Health. College of Pharmacy and Health Sciences.
- FPNS staff, First Church worship and facilities staff.
- Other large Presbyterian Churches in Manhattan (Brick, Fifth Ave, Madison Ave)
- Covid-19 vaccine tracker study per zip code compared to the membership zip code. (<https://www1.nyc.gov/site/doh/covid/covid-19-data-vaccines.page>)

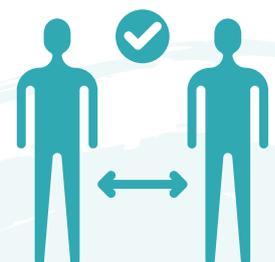
By the Numbers...

- Average May-June attendance = 180 (maximum 220 in 2019)
- Sanctuary capacity = 1000
- DOH guidance: 50% capacity, 6 ft apart, masks, no shared surfaces.
- 70% of membership live in zip codes with 60% or higher vaccination rates. (90% in areas with a rate of 47% or higher)
- By May 23rd, 100% of our worship and facilities staff will be fully vaccinated.
- Presently, 93% of choir is vaccinated.



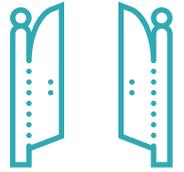
Temporary Safety Modifications

- Removed all difficult to clean shared surfaces (hymnals, Bibles, brochures, pew cushions and offering plates)
- Congregants will seat in family units/ households with masks at all times.
- Masks are mandatory for everyone at all times. Masks will be provided for those who arrive without. Worship leaders (speakers) will remove their masks only one at a time, for the liturgy, and at a distance of 20 ft from the congregation.
- All windows will be open and the furnace blowers will be on (no heat) to help with air circulation.
- Congregational singing is limited (hymns printed in bulletin).
- Choir will sing safely distanced in the North Balcony.
- Vaccinations are not required, but they are highly encouraged.
- No reservations are needed.
- With the right configuration (guided by ushers) our safely distanced capacity is 294



"Pipeline" for a Family of Three

- Family arrives to church and enters the 12th St. gate (all 5th avenue gates are also open).



- They are greeted by a church officer (masked and fully vaccinated) and guided to one of the 6 stations spread on the North lawn and walkways.

- A church officer greets them and asks them the safety questions as they sanitize their hands (the hand sanitizer stations have automatic temperature readers).



- Upon answering the questions, they will receive a token, which they will take to the head greeter at the entrance of the sanctuary.

- The head greeter welcomes them, takes their token (which will be sanitized after the service) and based on the number of people in their family, will assign them a pew number and direct them to the appropriate usher.



- The usher will accompany them to their pew number and return to their station in the back of the church.

- Bulletins will be available for those who need them. All pews however will have cards with QR codes which people can use to download the bulletin to their phones. The offering will happen in the same way.



- Contact tracing will take place via pew cards which people will fill out and leave in their seats once the service is over. If we become aware of any positive cases, those seated in the immediate vicinity will be contacted as soon as possible.

- At the end of worship, the pastoral staff will come down from the chancel and dismiss the pews in an orderly manner (from front and back) in order to avoid gathering in the aisles.



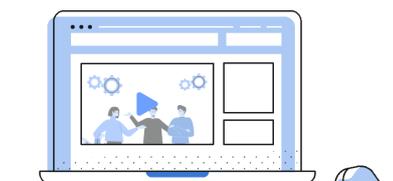
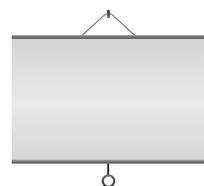
- Since the congregation hasn't seen each other for a year, we are making available the North and South lawns for people to visit. No coffee service will be available for a few weeks until NYDOH changes guidelines.



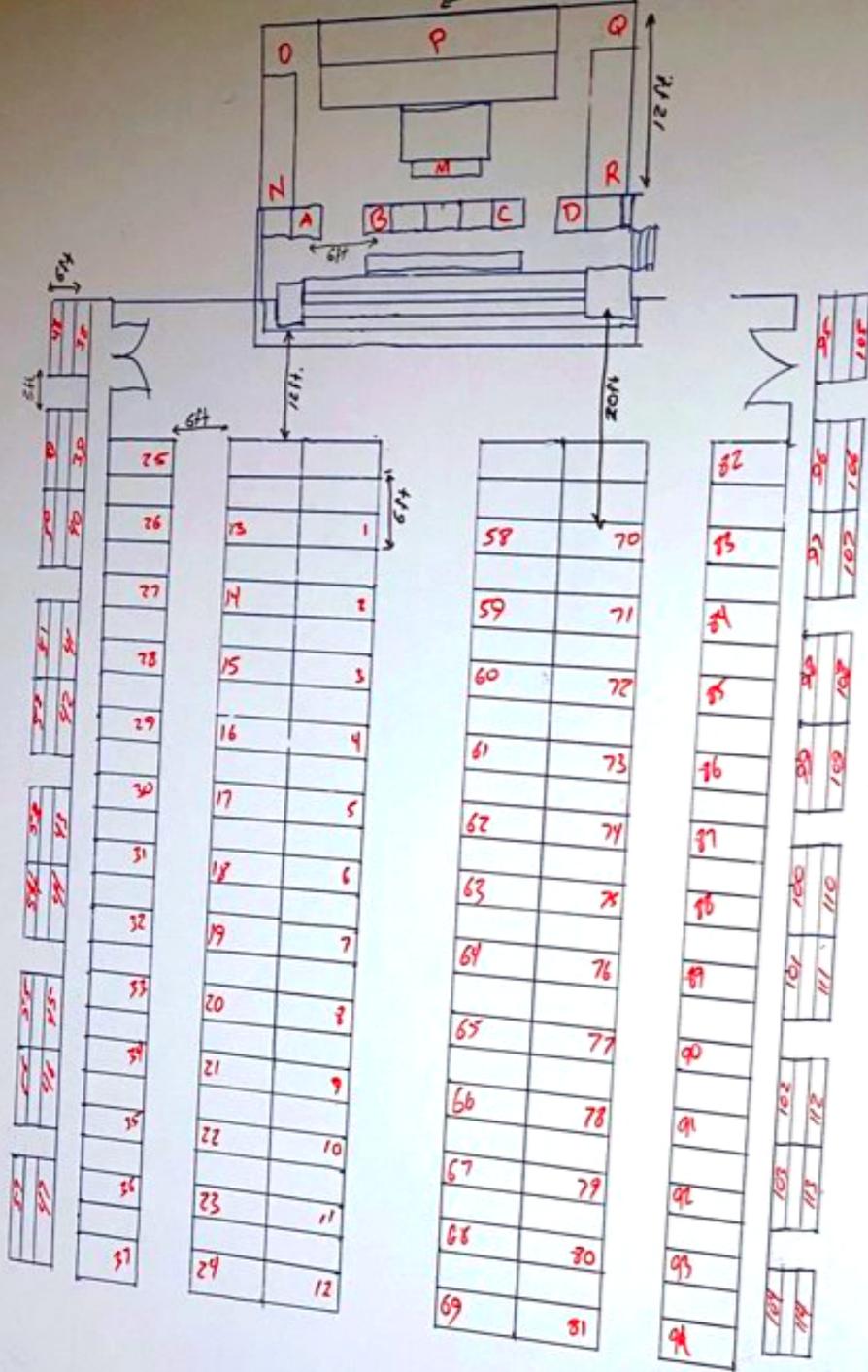


Other Considerations

- The Mellin-Macnab building entrance will be staffed by 2 volunteers ready to assist anyone with wheelchairs or mobility issues.
- The parlor will be used for families with young children who need a dedicated space if they prefer not to be in the sanctuary. A worship host will welcome them and make bulletins available. The big screen in the parlor will project the service real time.
- Our online streaming ministry has proved very valuable for many, and will continue (and will be improved/developed) indefinitely.



Seating Chart



1st SCENARIO
TOTAL:

1-12: HOUSEHOLD
13-24: SINGLE
25-37: HOUSEHOLD
S. BALCONY EVEN: SINGLE
S. BALCONY ODD: HOUSEHOLD

⇒ 57 UNITS (South)

(IF) EVERY HOUSEHOLD = 4 [up to 6]
EVERY SINGLE = 1 [up to 2]

(OR 3/2) ⇒

#35 HOUSEHOLDS (4) = 140

#22 SINGLES (1) = 22

162 South

324 TOTAL

6ft. APART
ALL MASKED.

+ A, B, C, D SPEAKERS
+ M, N, O, P, Q, R MUSICIANS
+ AV1, AV2
+ USHERS (4-6)



What's Next?

If approved...

- Communications team will create a inside/outside campaign which includes a “what to expect” video walkthrough.
- Temperature/ hand sanitizer stations ordered.
- “Welcome back” signage ordered.
- Pew signs and cards ordered.
- Worship staff to finalize modified order of worship.
- Pray.

**"I was glad when they said to me,
'Let us go to the house of the Lord!'"
Psalm 122:1**