Huntingtown United Methodist Church
Guidelines for Outdoor Worship Gatherings

As we learn more about the virus and recommended safety guidelines, precautions that we have in place now may change in the weeks to come. We ask for your continued patience, flexibility, and grace for our HUMC community. We look forward to worshiping with you in-person!

General Considerations

- Outdoor worship will be held near the fire pit adjacent to the parking lot
- Do not attend if you are experiencing any symptoms of COVID-19 or have come in contact with someone who has tested positive within the last 14 days. See the CDC website for a full list of symptoms.[1]
- Be aware of your own risk factors when determining whether or not to attend an outdoor worship gathering. See the CDC website regarding extra precautions.[2]
- Participants are expected to bring their own chairs and masks.
- Children are to remain with their parents/guardians at all times.
- Social distancing of at least 6 feet between households is expected at all times.
- On communion Sundays we will celebrate BYOE (Bring Your Own Elements) communion. Prepackaged communion kits will also be available.
- If there is inclement weather, we will have online worship only. We will notify the congregation through the church website if a service is cancelled.
- We ask that you register through the church website before attending. This makes contact tracing easier, in case someone were to get sick.
- There will be designated parking for people with mobility issues.

Entering the Worship Area

- Hand sanitizer, prepackaged communion kits (on communion Sundays) and extra masks will be available on a table at the edge of the parking lot.

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[1] See the CDC's guidelines: https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/symptoms-testing/symptoms.html

[2] See CDC guidelines: https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/need-extra-precautions/index.html

- A greeter will check your name(s) off on a pre-printed attendance sheet.
- Choose the area for you and your family to sit. An usher can assist to ensure necessary seating separation between households.
- The only allowed access to the building is to use restrooms in the fellowship hall area. No more than 2 persons may enter the mens or ladies rooms at a time, and parents must accompany small children. Please disinfect the surface around the sink before exiting and wipe down all surfaces touched (such as door handles).
- A hand sanitizer station will be available for use upon entering the building.
- Water fountains will be turned off.

Worship

- The service will be planned for approximately 40 minutes.
- There will be no nursery care, children or youth classes. Families will worship together.
- Refreshments will not be offered.
- There will be no bulletins, guest cards, or offering envelopes.
- No handshakes, hugs, or elbow bumps.
- Face masks are to be worn during the service, except when receiving holy communion.
- The pastor, musicians and vocalists will be separated from the congregation by 20 feet. Unless they are members of the same household, they should be separated from each other by 6 feet.
- There will be no congregational singing.
- There will be no offering plates or bags. Online and text giving are encouraged.
- As you return to your car at the conclusion of the service, please continue to observe social distancing guidelines.