

Beachcities Re-Opening Statement as of May 29, 2020  
*(Subject to change as data continues to emerge)*

Dear Church Family,

Throughout this entire crisis, it has been our wholehearted commitment to submit to the governing authorities regarding their instructions for large and small group gatherings as pertains to church (Romans 13). While this has been challenging and sometimes painful, our entire church family rose to the occasion and transitioned and adapted remarkably well, all things considered. Thank you for continuing to partner with us through this uncertain time—we are proud to serve the Lord alongside all of you!

On Friday, May 22, President Trump announced that churches are essential businesses, allowing for us to reopen our facility. This was followed shortly thereafter by a statement from our governor with a number of strict guidelines regarding reopening. For example, one of those guidelines limits our attendance to 25% of building capacity or a maximum of 100 attendees. A number of other restrictions specifically forbid us from engaging in certain forms of worship.

While we're all eager to gather again as a church family, these restrictions have led us to decide to remain patient and wait for less restricted conditions before resuming our large weekend services. Even though we won't be opening up our weekend services in our facility just yet, we are excited to re-open the facility for smaller, mid-week gatherings like small groups and family ministry programming\* beginning on Monday, June 1st. Further information regarding on-campus meetings will be shared on our website and through our various ministry-specific communication channels. Stay tuned for more information!

We are committed to the safety of our church family and so, as a result, we will be implementing the following:

- Increased sanitation and disinfecting measures between group meetings;
- Increased hand sanitizing/hand washing;
- Increased food preparation guidelines;
- Temperature check prior to entering the building (temperatures > 100.4F will not be permitted inside);
- Maintain social distancing and/or masks during group meetings;
- Masks are recommended for those who are: older than 65, immunocompromised, metabolically unhealthy;
- We ask that you please stay home if you are presenting any symptoms (Fever, coughing, shortness of breath);

As we take steps toward reopening our facility for our large weekend services in the future, it is a priority for us to take into consideration the needs of everyone in our congregation,

including those who are most vulnerable among us, so that no one gets left behind. We are actively taking steps and making plans to ensure that we have environments where everyone feels safe to come and worship God and connect with their friends. This includes those who are immunocompromised and the elderly, who are a very precious part of our church congregation. Consequently, we will continue to regularly consult the latest data and science concerning the safe reopening for those at greatest risk. This will take time and necessitates multiple different stages of re-opening.

We also recognize that, throughout this process, not everyone will be ready or able to be with us in-person; therefore, we will continue to provide our church online experience each weekend as well as all of our digital content for children and students. Some of our mid-week small groups will opt to remain digital for some time.

In the meantime, let's continue to stay connected to one another and reach out in love to our community. If you're looking for a way to make a difference during this time, head to [Beachcities.org/Pantry](https://Beachcities.org/Pantry) to find out how to get involved. We ask that you would also pray for the church leadership team as we navigate re-opening on a larger scale in the near future! We can't wait to see you soon!

God Bless,

Beachcities Leadership Team

*\*A Note on children and students: "According to the latest numbers released by the CDC, it appears that, for children, there's essentially zero risk of death or serious illness from the virus" (Dr. Scott Atlas, Stanford University Hoover Institute Senior Fellow). This is great news, because any attempt at enforcing social distancing with little ones would be futile! That being said, we will be vigorous with the safety precautions listed above and ask that the parents are hyper-vigilant regarding keeping sick children home. If for any reason you are not comfortable sending your child to an on-campus program, you can continue to experience our digital content weekly from home!*