

Antioch East Baptist Church

Reopening Guidelines 2021

Released 06/30/2021



Church/Sanctuary – Expectations

- If you are not comfortable with public assembly, please log on to ours Live Streaming services at www.antiocheast.org and click [Join Live](#).
- **Mask Mandate** – All persons older than the age of two **must always wear a mask**.
- Forehead temperature checks are necessary and required upon entering the church. If your temperature reads **100.0 degrees or above**, you will not be able to enter the facilities.
- **No handshaking, hugging, community sharing**, etc., will be permitted within the church facilities.
- Members are recommended to apply hand sanitizer upon entry into the lobby.
- The congregation is required to **6 ft social distancing** while within the church facilities.
- To maximize the sanctuary seating capacity, **no group seating will be allowed** for the following ministries: (Deacon's Ministry, Mother's Ministry, Ministers Ministry, etc.).
- **No holding seats** for family members; family members/ household members will be seated as a group.
- Entering and exiting into the church's sanctuary will only be allowed to and from the lobby area.
- Ushers will direct movement in the lobby and sanctuary and will also conduct the seating of the congregation into two groups: household/families or individual seating. Seating will start with front rows to back rows; exiting of the sanctuary will start from the back rows and move toward front rows.
- Each Usher will be responsible for seating and directing four pews.
- **No one will be seated in the front row.**
- Worship Service will be 1 hour and 15 minutes and begin promptly at 10:15 AM. Early arrival is suggested; **services will start promptly at 10:30 AM.**
- Water fountains will not be operable.
- No meals, food, or drinks will be served at this time.
- Guest registration cards will be available on the website via QR Code and may be accessed using a smartphone.
- Communion, offering, and bulletins will be processed upon entry.
- The congregation may also deposit tithes and offerings when exiting the sanctuary.
- If you are experiencing any COVID-19 symptoms, please stay home and experience the worship service virtually at www.antiocheast.org and click [Join Live](#).

These guidelines, researched and reviewed weekly, are based on recommendations obtained from the Center for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), World Health Organization (WHO), and local State and County Health agencies.

Worship Services:

- The Praise and Worship team will render music July 11 through August 8, 2021. (After August 8th, the Minister of Music will schedule the choir rotation with the direction from the Pastor and following CDC guidelines for social distancing.
- [Live streaming](http://www.antiocheast.org) will be available at 10:30 AM Sunday. You can gain access through the Antioch East Baptist Church website at www.antiocheast.org.
- Up to six (6) Deacons will render devotional Service.
- Only Courtesy Guild will provide the welcome.
- All announcements will be displayed on the projection screens, made available on the website, and/or transmitted via emails and calling posts.
- The Media Ministry will maintain and enhance virtual services.
- **Prayer of Covering/Altar Prayer** - members are asked to stand and remain in the seated area.
- **Communion** – Deacons will serve members as they enter the lobby at tables strategically arranged for distribution.
- Opening doors of church-Pastor/New Member Ministry
- The Pastor will wave and greet members from the pulpit and then return to his study per the recommendation of the security team.
- Deacons will collect offerings in the lobby upon entering and exiting the sanctuary area at tables strategically arranged for collection. The Finance Ministry will provide envelopes and collection baskets and monitor the process.
- Mail-in and virtual giving options will also be available.

Transportation:

- Sanitation of all buses.
- All drivers will wear a mask and gloves.
- All seating on the bus will be to social distancing guidelines.
- All riders will wear a mask and use hand sanitizer upon entry onto the bus.
- All riders will have the temperature checked before entering the bus.
- All buses will be clean initially and after each usage.
- Open a minimum of two windows on opposite sides of the bus.

Christian Education:

- **Sunday School:** tentatively restarts August 1, 2021, at 9:15 AM, adhering to all social distancing, mask, and sanitation guidelines. Sunday School assembly Location: Fellowship Hall.

Classroom assignments:

Women's class: Fellowship Hall

Men's class: Previously assigned classroom (follow signage)

All other classes: Previously assigned classroom (follow signage)

- **Bible Study:** tentatively restarts August 4, 2021; Location: Fellowship Hall.
- **Mid-Week Bible Study:** tentatively restarts August 5, 2021; Location: Fellowship Hall. Until further notice, **no lunch/snacks will be served.**