



July 31, 2020

Dear Stow Alliance Fellowship Family,

First of all, thank you for your patience. We must give thanks to our God for His continued faithfulness in providing us with days without rain, thunder, and the like. Thank you, Lord! The kind of weather we have been having on Sunday mornings just doesn't happen in Ohio.

With great pleasure, we announce that the Reopening Committee has made the decision to *target* reopening Stow Alliance Fellowship doors on Sunday - **August 9th!** We are excited to welcome everyone indoors, especially as the temperature outdoors has risen.

Prior to reopening, we must upgrade our ability to live stream our services on the internet and to additional rooms outside of the sanctuary so that we can adequately social distance within the building. Our team has been working diligently to see that this happens. Please pray for the timing and logistics associated with preparing the church for reentry and for those involved.

There will be one worship service each Sunday beginning at 10:30 a.m. The rooms that will be available first are the sanctuary (holds ~ 80 individuals) and the gymnasium (holds ~ 80 individuals). For overflow, the Seasons room will be made available which holds ~40 individuals. Facial coverings are required when entering the building and must remain on for the duration of the service according to the Ohio Department of Health recommendations. Upon arrival, you may choose to enter the main doors or the wheel chair accessible entrance located near the Seasons Room if you intend on gathering in the Sanctuary. Once the allowable number of individuals is met for the Sanctuary, you will then be asked to go to the gym entrance, or you may go there directly. Please note that the elevator will not be available for use.

We are also planning to continue to use our FM transmitter, so if you want to be on-site but are not comfortable wearing a mask, you may listen to the service from the parking lot in your car. Or you can watch the service in real time at home on our YouTube channel, which can be accessed on our website: [stowalliance.org](http://stowalliance.org).

For the time being, there will be no childcare or children's programs available. However, Ms. Darlene and Mr. Jack will be in the lobby with activity packets for the children. We are working hard to bring children's programs back as soon as possible.

You are encouraged to continue to take advantage of the ease of giving either on line or via USPS. If you feel the need to give on Sunday mornings, you may drop your donation in the boxes at the back of the Sanctuary or in the buckets provided in the other remote rooms. Please note that there will be no offering envelopes available and an offering plate will not be passed.

Since the pandemic situation is fluid, please be prepared for changes to occur. If changes do occur in the level of risk, requiring closure of SAF doors, we will notify you in advance.

Thank you again for your continued patience and endurance during this time!

God Bless,

The Reopening Committee (*Bill Alvarez, Bill Crowe, Jenni Davis, Joel Rapp, & Richard Sprague*)



# Reopening Phases

## Phase I (Outside meeting)

In progress: see Re-opening document 5.30.20

## Phase II (Partial Indoor Use of Facility)

### Individual Safety

- Masks must be properly worn at all times while in building
- Maintain safe distance
- No handshakes, hugs
- Sanitizer stations
- Bring your own water
- Drop-off for offering
- Pre-packaged communion
- Limited use of restrooms (max 2-3 [depending on location])
- Cleaning of high touchpoint areas between use

Sick or contact with individual with COVID-19 (or like symptoms) must stay at home.

### Church Programing

- 1 Sunday service in multiple rooms (Priority: sanctuary [capacity ~80], gym [~80], seasons room [40], Sr. High youth room [20], chapel [20])
- No nursery/children's programs (until further notice) - **Discussions in progress**
- Youth program according to Phase I standard and small group guidelines
- Wednesday night programming to resume with designated rooms (days may change to accommodate cleaning schedule)
- Develop and implement social media connection
- Equipment installed/implemented for live streaming

\*Sunday School sessions inside the building not to occur until date is determined. **Discussions in progress.**

## Phase III (Full Use of Facility, date to be determined)

### Individual Safety

- Optional masks
- Sanitizer stations
- Handshakes, etc.
- Resume Nursery/Children's programs (in full)
- Resume regular youth programming (in full)
- Resume coffee and refreshments
- Regular plate passing
- Regular communion
- Normal sanctuary seating
- Continue cleaning of high touchpoint areas between use

Sick or contact with individual with COVID-19 (or like symptoms) must stay at home.

### Church Programing

- All services resume
- Large gatherings resume
- Face-to-face connections
- Church available for large gatherings (eg, weddings)
- Continue social media and live streaming

**Note:** Depending on the situation in the local area and recommendations made by the Ohio Department of Health and Centers for Disease Control, guidelines stated above and timeline for implementation are subject to change. We strongly advise that those of advanced age, with compromised immune systems, serious heart conditions, severe obesity, chronic kidney disease undergoing dialysis, or liver disease or other factors that place them at higher risk should not attend SAF services at this time.