

WILLOW HILL UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

REGATHERING PLAN

The church office remains closed but emails, phone messages, and postal mail are retrieved daily.

Email: office@willowhill.org

Phone: 309-383-2700.

Website: www.willowhill.org

PROPERTY & BUILDING USE REQUIREMENTS:

- ◆ People entering the building must be fever & symptom free for 14 days prior to entering the building.
- ◆ All people must sign the log upon entering the building for any reason.
- ◆ Face masks need to be worn in the building.
- ◆ Face masks need to be worn outdoors when not able to maintain at least 6 feet of physical distance.
- ◆ Groups meeting on the property or in the building must keep 6 feet distance between participants.
- ◆ Persons using the building are asked to wipe down touched surfaces with a disinfecting wipe before and after use.
- ◆ The kitchen will be closed. Food and drink may not be served within group meetings on the property or in the building.

Caring for one another's spiritual and physical well-being continues to be high priority as Willow Hill Church continues to work toward the mission of *Gather~Grow~Go* during uncertain times of the Covid pandemic.

The state government *Restore Illinois* plan and the Illinois Great Rivers Conference *Returning to the Heart of Worship* plan will continue to guide practices at Willow Hill as the church moves forward in regathering in person.

• **WORSHIP SERVICES**

Due to a pattern of rising Covid-19 cases and subsequent mitigations, Willow Hill will follow guidance from the Bishop of Illinois Great Rivers Conference and return to online worship services only. We encourage people to engage in our meaningful worship experiences through our website, YouTube or Facebook.

• **SMALL GROUPS/CLASSES/MEETINGS**

Small groups, classes and committee meetings will continue to meet online as needed and are able to meet in the building. Gatherings may include up to 10 participants in select classrooms, up to 25 in the lobby area, worship center, or outdoors at the church as long as all property and building use requirements are followed and meeting spaces are reserved through the church office in advance of the meeting time. Leaders will be required to submit an attendance log for each gathering, which includes participant contact information, to the church office within 24 hours after the meeting.

• **CHILDREN AND YOUTH MINISTRIES**

Children's Church and youth groups will continue to meet regularly online. Youth group leaders may choose to hold in-person meetings outdoors or indoors following all building use guidelines. The church nursery and Little Willows will remain closed at this time.

• **MISSION AND OUTREACH**

Individuals and groups may gather for the purposes of mission projects and outreach efforts following the building use guidelines.

• **CHURCH OFFICE**

The church office will remain closed for in-person business as staff will continue to work primarily from home with the option of working physically distanced in the office as needed. Staff and leaders may also use the building for specific ministry needs following all use requirements.

• **IN-PERSON ENGAGEMENT**

All individuals are encouraged to follow recommendations of leaders in health care and thoughtfully consider whether in-person gatherings are personally appropriate.