

Welcome Back to PEPC
Plan for Re-Opening Public Worship
Revised August 20, 2020
(Covid-19 Response)



OVERVIEW

In accordance with local, state, and national guidelines, Parker Evangelical Presbyterian Church will move to re-open its public gatherings for worship in a four-phased approach. This approach will be subject to the guidelines set forth by the Colorado State Governor's Office and the local Tri County Health Department. The initiation of each phase will be determined by data instead of dates by PEPC Session. In addition, (and most importantly) this three-phased approach will adhere to the following theological principles set forth by God's Word.

1. Love God, Love Neighbor –
 - a. We will do our best to provide worship in a safe regard, within reason, in accordance with the Lord's call to "Love your neighbor as yourself" in Mark 12:31, John 13:34-35, and Romans 12:10. We desire to be a witness of compassion to the Parker Community in whatever we do.
2. A Commitment to Meeting Together –
 - a. Whatever form it takes, we remain committed to spurring one another on towards Christ. We will not neglect our meeting together as set forth in Hebrews 10:25 and Acts 2:42.
3. Protection of the Vulnerable –
 - a. While we believe in the importance of every individual taking ownership of their own health, we also recognize the importance of doing all we can to care for the vulnerable in our midst. See Psalm 68 for more.

In all that we do, we echo the prayer of 3 John 1:2...

-“Beloved, I pray that all may go well with you and that you may be in good health, as it goes well with your soul.”

PHASE ONE

Tri-County Health guidance under Phase One:

Special care should be taken in physical interactions involving those people **MOST VULNERABLE** to serious complications of COVID-19 (those > 65 or with underlying illnesses). Tri-County Health recommends those most vulnerable continue to stay home.

SMALL GROUP gatherings are permitted as long as the gatherings are with 10 people or fewer and physical distancing (6 feet apart) is observed. More than one limited gathering may occur in a building if they are in separate rooms (each with 4 walls and a door) and if physical distancing is observed and the gatherings are of 10 or fewer people in each room – other Public Health Order guidance must also be followed. Outdoor space is preferable for gathering with appropriate physical distancing and separation. Continuation of electronic platforms for services, Bible studies, small groups, meetings, etc. is encouraged.

LARGE VENUES are closed to gathering of more than 10 people

Phase One PEPC Approach:

Church Offices/Staff – Church office will be open normal hours. Staff will continue to telework except for essential employees. Face Coverings will be required of all staff sharing the same space. ELC remains in Childcare Camp format. Staff wellness checks are required. Staff meetings will take place in person with a teleconference option available.

Sunday Morning Worship – PEPC will not hold public, in-person, worship services during this first phase. However, worship services will be available through live streaming from the worship center. Only scheduled service individuals will attend.

Pastoral Care—available via teleconferencing or in person. Please call the office to schedule.

Children’s Ministry and Student Ministries –

- Children’s Ministry materials will be provided online.
- Student Ministry activity and Youth Group will take place via electronic media.
- Small group interactions are available, mostly in outdoor locations, always maintaining 10 or less people in a group with physical distancing.

Community Life (Men’s, Women’s, Young Adults, Small Groups)– All gatherings of 10 people or less will be allowed to meet in appropriate space, maintaining physical distancing of six (6) feet separation and face covering recommended. Our outdoor campus is encouraged as a resource for meeting with appropriate separation from other groups. Attendees are encouraged to bring their own chair.

Sharing of food or beverages is not appropriate and strongly discouraged at these gatherings. An option for teleconferencing should be considered for those electing to remain home.

**All areas will be required to be cleaned and disinfected prior to and after each meeting use. Please encourage all attendees to wash hands frequently. Face coverings are requested for all attendees.

PHASE TWO

(Revised August 20, 2020)

Tri-County Health guidance *anticipated* under Phase Two:

Special care should be taken in social interactions involving those people **MOST VULNERABLE** to serious complications of COVID-19 (those > 65 or with underlying illnesses). Tri-County Health recommends those most vulnerable continue to stay home.

GATHERINGS are permitted where appropriate physical distancing (6 feet apart) is observed. All individuals should maximize physical distance from others. State and county masking orders are observed.

LARGE VENUES (places of worship) can operate under physical distancing protocols.

Phase Two PEPC Approach:

Church Offices/Staff – Church office will be open normal hours. Staff may telework from home as necessary. Face Coverings will be required of all staff sharing the same space. When physical meetings are necessary, physical distancing guidelines of six (6) feet will be implemented. Staff meetings will be in person with face covering. Staff wellness checks are required. Teleconferencing options will remain available.

Sunday Morning Worship – Gathered worship services on the hillside will begin in June and continue through August 30 and possibly beyond. September 6, PEPC will begin two services on the hillside. Times TBD. Open to all attendees, while still encouraging those that are vulnerable to remain sheltered in place and participate through live streamed service.

- a. Pre-registration system implemented through online reservations.
- b. 250 Maximum in any distinct outdoor space.
 - a. Increased capacity to maximum of 500 with secondary space defined for additional gathering of separated by 50' with additional entrance and facilities available. Separate ingress and egress defined.
 - b. Diagram of spacing attached.
- c. Face coverings are encouraged for all attendees and required for volunteers and staff.
- d. Contact tracing and safety communications will be provided directly from PEPC as needed.
- e. Family units will be permitted to sit together. Otherwise, six (6) feet distancing will be required.
- f. Maintain appropriate spacing in the parking and gathering areas as people enter and leave.
- g. Offering will be encouraged online or placed in a designated location.
- h. Digital media only will be provided for distribution.
- i. In the case of inclement weather, services will be online only with a two(2) hour notice by email, social media, and PEPC app.
- j. Fellowship time before and after the service must maintain physical distancing.

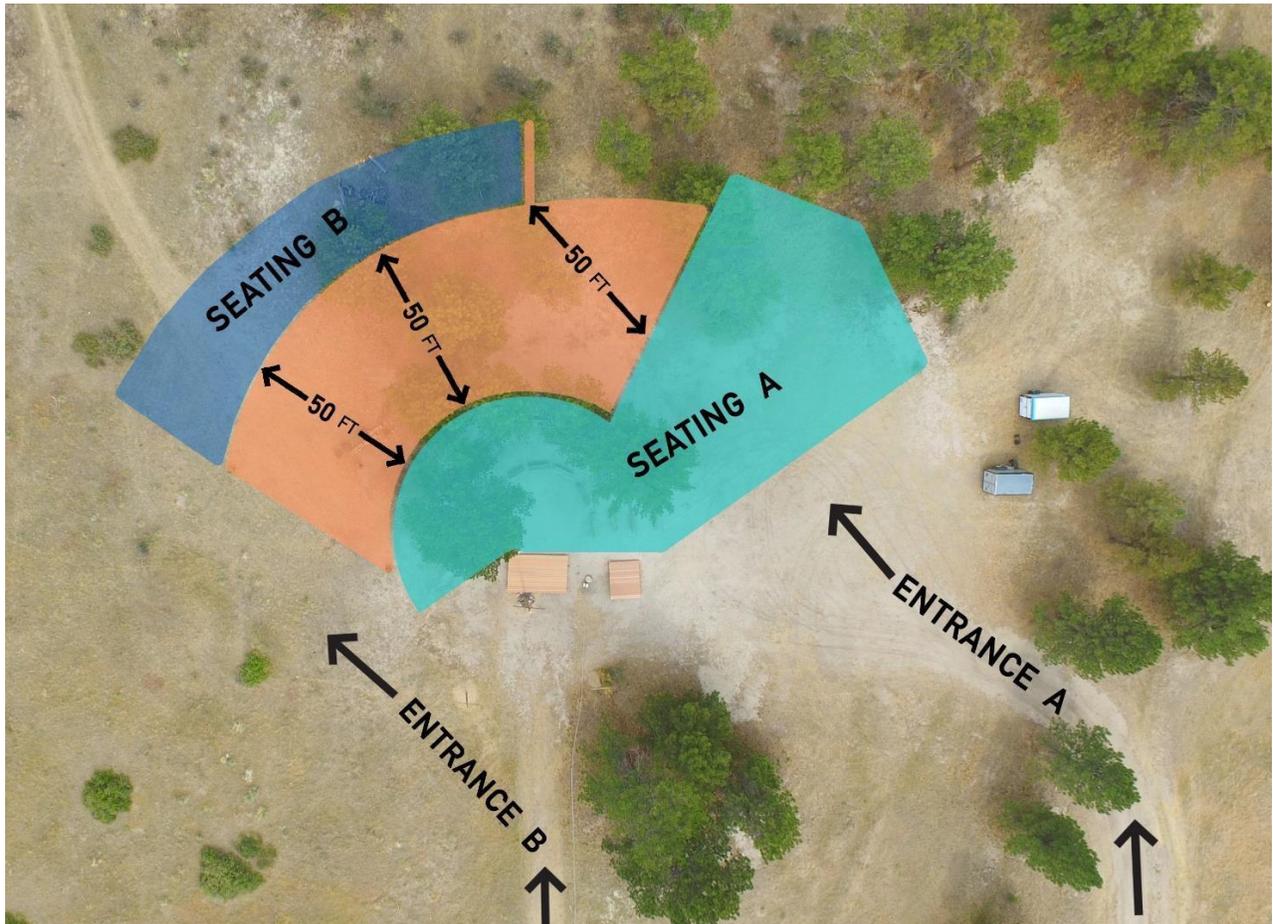
Children's and Student Ministry –

- Children's Ministry materials will be provided online.
- Student Ministry activity will be permitted and encouraged to take place outside with

physical distancing required. Youth Group will continue through in person and teleconference as available.

Community Life (Men's, Women's, Young Adults, Small Groups) - Gatherings within current Tri-County guidelines will be allowed on campus, maintaining appropriate physical distancing.

Sharing of food or beverages must be approved through facility reservations and must be limited to self-contained, prepacked distribution. No buffet service will be allowed. Physical distancing must be maintained in all gatherings. Ministries are encouraged to keep food distribution to a minimum. An option for teleconferencing should be considered for those electing to remain home.



PHASE TWO

Transitional

Tri-County Health guidance under Phase Three:

Special care should be taken in social interactions involving those people **MOST VULNERABLE**. Those who are most vulnerable should practice physical distancing and minimize exposure to social settings where distancing may not be practical.

LOW-RISK POPULATIONS should consider minimizing time spent in crowded environments.

All **GATHERINGS** should maximize physical distance from others. Social gatherings where appropriate distancing may not be practical, should be avoided unless precautionary measures are observed.

LARGE VENUES (places of worship) can operate under physical distancing protocols.

Phase Three PEPC Approach:

Church Offices/Staff – Staff will be encouraged to work from their office at PEPC but will also be allowed to telework from home or other locations as necessary. Offices will be open to the public for normal hours and onsite meetings will be allowed. When physical meetings are necessary, physical distancing guidelines of six (6) feet will be implemented and attendance recorded. Staff meetings will take place in person with a teleconferencing option as needed. Staff and visitors will follow state face mask mandate and hand sanitizer will be available.

Sunday Morning Worship – Two indoor service times at 8:30am & 10:30am in person with live streaming available. All programs will include reservations and check in.

- a. PEPC will begin regular scheduled indoor worship via two services observing the 175 indoor limits.
- b. Colorado masking mandate will be observed indoors by everyone over the age of 10 throughout the service.
- c. Coffee and donuts will return and be individually served.
- d. Communion will be administered with individually packaged cup and bread.
- e. Greeters will continue to wear face coverings and gloves as recommended.
- f. Hand sanitizer will be available at multiple locations.
- g. Offering will be encouraged on-line or dropped in a box at the back of worship.
- h. Nursery care and Children's programming will be available beginning with the 8:30am service only. Childcare guidelines require children 3 and older in group settings to wear face masks.
- i. Advance reservations and check-in will be required.
- j. Ongoing sensitization will be implemented during gatherings and between services for all gathering areas.

Children's and Student Ministry Programing

- Children's Ministry programing will resume gathering on Sunday mornings following state childcare guidelines and maintaining physical distancing.
- Youth Group will continue outside when possible and transitioning to indoors with appropriate physical distancing. Food or beverages may be available when individually packaged and served according to Tri-County Health guidelines. Small group activities will continue.
- All programing will include check in and registration.

Community Life (Men's, Women's, Young Adults, Small Groups)- Gatherings

- Gatherings within current Tri- County guidelines will be allowed on campus, with appropriate physical distancing.
- Any food or drink included must follow Tri-County distribution and preparation guidelines.
- All onsite gatherings will require a check in record and registration for new people.
- An option for teleconferencing should be considered for those electing to remain home.

Community Ministries - Boy Scouts, MOPS, Civil Air Patrol, Fight Club etc.

- PEPC will begin to open building to community groups as maintenance and funding will allow.
- Groups may be required to write up an individual plan for when they meet.
- Groups may need to provide a maintenance fee for additional cleaning.
- Previous groups will be given priority after PEPC ministry needs are met.

PHASE Three

Tri-County Health *anticipated* guidance under Phase Three:

Special care should be taken in social interactions involving those people **MOST VULNERABLE**. Those who are most vulnerable should practice physical distancing and minimize exposure to social settings where distancing may not be practical.

LOW-RISK POPULATIONS should consider minimizing time spent in crowded environments.

All GATHERINGS should maximize physical distance from others. Social gatherings where appropriate distancing may not be practical, should be avoided unless precautionary measures are observed.

LARGE VENUES (places of worship) can operate under moderate physical distancing protocols.

Phase Three PEPC Approach:

Church Offices/Staff – Staff will be encouraged to work from their office at PEPC but will also be allowed to telework from home or other locations as necessary. Offices will open to the public for normal hours and all meetings would be allowed. When physical meetings are

necessary, physical distancing guidelines of six (6) feet will be implemented. Staff meetings will take place in person with a teleconferencing option as needed. Staff and visitors will be encouraged to use face coverings and hand sanitizer.

Sunday Morning Worship – regular service times (8:30am & 10:30am) in person with live streaming available. All programs will include reservations and check in.

- j. PEPC will continue regular scheduled indoor worship via two services observing current large group and House of Worship gatherings guidance.
- k. Coffee and donuts will be available following appropriate protocol.
- l. Communion will be served by individually packaged cup and bread.
- m. Greeters will continue to wear face coverings and gloves as recommended.
- n. Hand sanitizer will be available at multiple locations.
- o. Offering will be encouraged on-line or dropped in a box/basket at the back of worship.
- p. Nursery care and Children’s programming will be available within appropriate guidelines.
- q. Advance reservations and check-in will be required.
- k.** Ongoing sensitization will be implemented during gatherings and between services for all gathering areas.

Children’s and Student Ministry Programming

- Children’s Ministry programming will resume gathering on Sunday mornings following state childcare guidelines.
- Youth Group will continue with appropriate physical distancing. Food or beverages may be available when individually packaged and served according to Tri-County Health guidelines. Small group activities will continue.
- All programming will include check in and registration.

Community Life (Men’s, Women’s, Young Adults, Small Groups)- Gatherings

- Gatherings within current Tri- County guidelines will be allowed on campus, with appropriate physical distancing.
- Any food or drink included must follow Tri-County distribution and preparation guidelines.
- All onsite gatherings will require a check in record and registration for new people.
- An option for teleconferencing should be considered for those electing to remain home.

Community Ministries - Boy Scouts, MOPS, Civil Air Patrol, Fight Club etc.

- PEPC building will open to community groups as maintenance and funding will allow.
- Groups may be required to write up an individual plan for when they meet.
- Groups may need to provide a maintenance fee for additional cleaning.
- Previous groups will be given priority after PEPC ministry needs are met.

PHASE FOUR

Phase Four PEPC Approach:

Church Offices/Staff – Staff will resume normal office use unless otherwise restricted. Physical distancing guidelines of six (6) feet will continue to be encouraged. Staff meetings will take place in person with teleconferencing available as necessary.

Sunday Morning Worship – Worship services would continue indoors with live streaming available:

1. 8:30am and 10:30am

- g. Family units permitted to sit together. Appropriate physical distancing encouraged. Overflow for those particularly vulnerable would be maintained with face covering required.
- h. Volunteers would continue to wear face coverings and gloves as appropriate
- i. Hand sanitizer will remain available
- j. Bulletins and worship aids may return
- k. Offering will be encouraged online or dropped in a box at the back of worship center.
- l. Coffee will be handed out by servers with gloves/face coverings.
- m. Communion will be served by individual cup and bread.
- n. Gathering will be permitted (encouraged) after worship.

Children's and Student Ministries –

- Nursery and Sunday School would also occur indoors.
- Youth Group would be permitted and encouraged to take place outdoors/indoors.

Community Life (Men's, Women's, Young Adults, Small Groups) – All gatherings would be permitted, with encouragement to adhere to physical distance guidelines. Strict sanitary guidelines would be followed for and food and drink service.