

OUTDOOR CHURCH EVENTS

The Government of Manitoba Phases have referred to two kinds of outdoor events.

1. Outdoor: Seating / standing in an area separate from parked cars.
2. Drive-In: People remain in their vehicles or standing outside on the left side.

This document refers to guidelines for outdoor events where the seating / standing area is separate from the parked cars.

1. Gathering Size Limitations

- Outdoor gathering limit: 100 people

2. Booking Event

- All events, other than regular worship services, should be booked through the office.
- Event Coordinator will be given *Grace Events Check List*.

3. Parking Lot Event Planning

- There are 86 parking lot stalls including 5 handicap parking. Some of these are being used for a dumpster, recycling bins and tree disposal area.
- The stalls are approximately 8'6" to 8'9" in-between the yellow lines.
- Outdoor events should be planned using the church parking lot. At this time, we ask that you do not use the Southwood School playground for church events.
- It will be the responsibility of the event coordinator to make sure there are designated parking and seating/standing areas and that parking lot attendants are available when required.

4. Physical Distancing

- Congregants are to physically distance themselves from members outside of their household, except for brief necessary exchanges.
- Ushers and greeters should maintain a physical distance and avoid physical contact with congregants.
- Event organizers are asked to keep groups contained, and not let new people enter as other people leave. This is to ensure contact tracing can be done if required.
- All seating / standing arrangements on the parking lot should allow for a two metre/six foot separation on all sides between congregants from different households.
- Adequate physical distancing must continue to be provided for all participants for the event activities including before and after event socializing.

5. Self-Assessment

- Congregants, staff and volunteers are reminded to stay home if they are feeling unwell, even if their symptoms are mild.

- All congregants, staff and volunteers should screen themselves for symptoms of Covid-19 or exposures prior to entering the facility.
- A link to the latest self-assessment tool should be included in the Constant Contacts sent out by the office.
- <https://sharedhealthmb.ca/covid19/screening-tool/>

6. Attendance Lists

- Attendants are asked to pre-register for outdoor events to ensure that gathering size limits are followed.
- Event Coordinator will be asked to submit a list of the names of all people who attended.

7. Entry into building

- Any activities inside of the building need to follow the *Grace Mennonite Covid Guidelines*.
- If congregants need to enter the building, ensure physical distancing is maintained.
- Foyer washrooms will be available.
- Line-ups and areas where people congregate should be monitored to ensure congregants maintain a physical distance of two metres/six feet.

8. Higher-Risk Activities

- Traditional greetings such as handshakes should be avoided.
- Ushers and greeters must maintain a physical distance and avoid physical contact with congregants.
- Passing objects or paperwork between congregants such as offering baskets/donation plates, song sheets, bulletins, is not allowed at this time.
- Each person should have their own microphone and music stand. Sheet music or devices with electronic sheet music should not be shared.
- Instructional settings for children should follow the applicable Government of Manitoba guidelines for day camps.
- Faith-based activities, rituals and practices should be reviewed to determine if they increase the risk of spreading COVID-19. Consider discontinuing or altering practices or activities that increase risk.
- Congregational singing is not allowed at this time.
- Provision of food and beverages are not allowed at this time.
- Group meals are not allowed at this time.

9. Cleaning and Disinfecting

- Hand sanitizing stations will be available at various locations including at entrance into the building.
- All common-touch surfaces will be disinfected as per public health guidelines.
- Sound equipment and objects (e.g. microphones, speakers, music stands) will be disinfected after each person's use.

10. Miscellaneous

- Congregants may be asked to bring their own lawn chairs/seating.

11. Inclement Weather

- If a decision is made to move inside due to inclement weather or for any other reason, the event coordinator will need to follow the *Grace Mennonite Covid Guidelines* document.