

OUTDOOR CHURCH WORSHIP SERVICES & EVENTS

The Government of Manitoba refers to two kinds of outdoor services / 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 worship services and events need to follow Public Health capacity restrictions.

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*.
- It is the event coordinator's responsibility to make sure capacity restrictions and orders/guidelines are followed.

3. Parking Lot Event Planning

- There are 85 parking lot stalls including 5 handicap parking.
- 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

- Event Coordinator will be responsible to make sure that capacity restrictions are adhered to and are asked to submit a list of the names of all people who attended to the church office.

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.

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.
- Each person should have their own microphone and music stand. Sheet music or devices with electronic sheet music should not be shared.
- Singing is allowed at OUTDOOR services and events. Households are required to physical distance. Mask-wearing is recommended in outdoor settings.
- 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.
- Provision of food and beverages are not allowed at this time.
- Social gatherings that occur outside of in-person services should follow all guidelines related to social distancing, group size, cleaning/disinfecting, food/drink and other applicable guidelines.
- If beverages and/or food is part of the fellowship at an OUTDOOR event, each household must bring their own beverages, food, dishes, cutlery, etc. and are asked to not share with other households.

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 Public Health Orders for capacity and the *Grace Mennonite Covid Guidelines* document.