



May 11, 2020

Dear Church Family
COVID-19 Update

As your pastor at Loma Alta Baptist Church, I long for us to congregate and worship together soon. I and the leadership have prayed about when we will be able to gather at church again. In response to Texas Gov. Abbott's new orders, current orders, we believe it is appropriate to continue with online worship until May 17th. Over the last few weeks, we have been getting our church building ready for when we return. The projected date of return is May 24, 2020. Social distancing rules will still be enforced and we will be gradually returning to worship in phases as follows:

Phase I: We will commence services on Sunday mornings 11am at the church sanctuary and meet only Sunday morning. We will be streaming our Tuesday English and Wednesday Spanish devotionals on Facebook live. Our morning service will also be streaming Facebook live for those who will be watching from home. We will encourage small group gatherings during the week.

After 6 weeks we will evaluate moving into Phase II.

Phase II: We will move to 2 services a week. Sunday morning service and Wednesday evening service.

After 6 weeks we will evaluate moving into Phase III. Social distancing rules will still be enforced.

Phase III: We will move into 3 services a week. Sunday mornings and evenings and Wednesday evenings. Social distancing rules will still be enforced.

Social distancing rules will still be enforced and we will be following the guidelines below for reopening our church for worship.

Guidelines to Reopen Loma Alta for Worship:

In accordance with the CDC guidelines and the governor's mandates concerning best practices to reopen houses of worship, these guidelines will be utilized by our church as we reopen for worship.

1. Practice Social Distancing: Social distancing of at least 6 feet is to be observed in all areas. Seating for the service will be clearly marked. Families living under the same roof may sit together. Every other row will be left unoccupied. There will be no personal contact allowed (hugging, hand shaking, etc....).
2. Times of Service: Until further notice we will be opening for worship service at 11am only. Based upon occupancy guidelines and to maintain social distancing.
3. High Risk Individuals: All individuals that fall within the high-risk groups as defined by the CDC are encouraged to stay home and worship online. Regardless of age, if you are ill, you are asked to stay home until such a time as you are healthy.
4. Nursery: Our nursery and any other ministry that requires childcare workers will not reopen at this time.
5. Masks: In all locations the CDC recommends masks to be worn.
6. Entrances: We will use front and back entrances to sanctuary only. Ushers will greet and open doors for you. Hand sanitizer will be located at both locations and in bathrooms.
7. Restrooms: Restrooms will be monitored to enable social distancing.
8. Hand to Hand Items: No items will be passed among attendees while at church, including offerings, print materials, or other worship items. Offering containers will be available in front of the pulpit but not passed for tithes. Remember all are to practice touchless greeting (No handshakes or hugs – Plenty of smiles, waves, and heart to heart gestures).
9. Sanitation: All touched surfaces (Ex. Door handles, counter tops, seating) will be sanitized between our worship services.

May our hearts be a true blessing to the Lord as we prepare to gather again.

Grace and Peace to all,

Pastor, Jose A. Nava III