



CHAPELRIDGE
— Free Methodist Church —

Hello Chapel Ridge,

Your leadership team has worked hard to make the process of returning to church Sunday morning both safe and clear. Below you will find a FAQ sheet of the directives we are taking to return to church this Sunday. If you have further questions, please email luke@chapelridge.ca

Bless you all!

RE-OPENING CHAPEL RIDGE FAQ

When is church restarting?

1. On Sunday July 12th at 10am, we will hold one morning service. We will be assessing everything as we move forward. This may mean that we try different styles of services at different times, or we may choose to suspend services again until restrictions are lighter.

Is there a limit to how many people can be at church?

1. Yes, our limit is 90 people. Some space will be taken by the volunteers and their families. We plan to leave a few spaces for guests who were not able to register ahead of time. We don't want to turn people away that are trying to seek Jesus.

Do I have to Pre-Register for the Service?

1. You will have to pre-register at chapelridge.ca/register. Make sure to pick the date and fill in all the information for you and anyone from your home who is planning to come.
2. On top of pre-registering, you will also have to be screened before coming into the building on Sunday morning. ***If you have been in another country in the last 14 days, or have been exposed to someone who has tested positive for COVID-19 you must stay home. If you have any of the classic symptoms listed below, you must stay home.***
 - fever, new or worsening cough, difficulty breathing, sore throat, difficulty swallowing, loss of taste/smell, nausea/vomiting, diarrhea, abdominal pain, pneumonia, nasal congestions, runny nose (if you do not already have diagnosed seasonal allergies)
3. If you do not have internet to register, please call 613-831-1024 and reserve a spot manually. Space however cannot be guaranteed as there are limits for each service.

Do I have to wear a mask?

1. In order to comply with City of Ottawa directives, masks are currently mandatory while inside a public space. This means everyone including pastors, worship leaders and volunteers.

2. According to Ottawa Public Health these are the only expulsions to this rule.

a.) Children under two years of age, or children under the age of five years either chronologically or developmentally who refuse to wear a mask and cannot be persuaded to do so by their caregiver;

b) Individuals with medical conditions rendering them unable to safely wear a Mask, including breathing difficulties or cognitive difficulties;

c) Individuals who are unable to apply or remove a Mask without assistance, including those who are accommodated under the Accessibility for Page 2 of 5 Ontarians with Disabilities Act (AODA) or who have protections under the Ontario Human Rights Code, R.S.O. 1990, c.H.19, as amended;

d) A person who is employed by or is an agent of the Operator of an Enclosed Public Space and: i. is in an area of the premises that is not designated for public access, or ii. is within or behind a physical barrier (e.g., Plexiglass).

What happens when I come to the building?

1. You will be greeted outside the main double doors. There you will be asked standard screening questions.

2. Just inside the doors there will be two hand sanitizing/ registration tables. Please stop there and make sure your hands are clean. You will be marked off on a registration form. We need to know who is in the building for contact tracing purposes.

3. You will be directed to the sanctuary to find your designated seating area for your group. You will not be able to choose your own seats.

4. The fireside room, kitchen, offices and children's wing will all be closed. The only open spaces will be the disabled, men's and women's washrooms, overflow room, foyer and the main sanctuary.

What happens when the service is over?

1. You will be dismissed in an ordered way and asked to exit out the double doors at the back of the sanctuary. From there you will walk to the left past the portable out to the parking lot. Ottawa Public Health has advised that there not be any social time prior to or following a service.

2. If after attending a service you develop symptoms or test positive for COVID-19, please contact the church immediately for contact tracing purposes.

Will there be a children's program or support provided for nursery and toddlers?

1. Unfortunately given the current restraints we are not able to provide these services.

2. Sarah has put a great deal of thought into how to engage the children during the service, look for more information directly from her. Time within the service will still be devoted to engaging the children and their families.

3. The sermon will not be directly geared for younger children, but they are welcome to come and bring a book, materials to color with, or other quiet activities.

Can I tithe in person on Sunday?

1. When you come in at the sanitization/registration table there will be a basket where you can leave donations. Make sure donations are marked with your name and placed inside an envelope. They will be taken and directly placed in the church safe.

2. For all other giving options please see <https://chapelridge.ca/giving/>

3. We recommend you set up direct withdrawal, however Tithely is also available. Details for both are on the website above.

Can anyone come to the live service?

1. You must first register! www.chapelridge.ca/register
2. We do recommend the following people continue to enjoy service online for your own well-being. These are recommendations and not mandates, please use your own discretion.
 - a) Those 65+ up
 - b) Those with compromised immune systems
 - c) Those not yet comfortable with meeting in person
 - d) People who have sensitivities to cleaning products
 - e) Anyone with symptoms of COVID-19 or who have been near someone who does. (This one is mandatory!)

What will the service look like?

1. It will not look like a normal Chapel Ridge service. Part of what makes a Sunday special for so many of you is the social time before and after. I am sorry that we are currently not allowed to do this. All this being said, be praying for God to give us a sense of his presence even with all the barriers (masks)! Consider phoning someone after the service and connecting that way. Pray with one another over the phone, or share what God was speaking to you through the service.
2. There will be worship, prayer, a message and a chance for people to respond to the Lord.
3. Unfortunately at this time we are unable to sing while at church. This will make service feel very different but consider taking this time to prepare your heart, ask the Lord to help you worship him through thought. Consider: focusing in on the words of the song, speak words of prayer during the song, close your eyes and create a mental picture of you worshipping the Lord using the song as a way of staying connected to Him.
4. Worship for the first week will be pre-recorded as we are still working through how to do this with the new mask wearing/no singing mandate.
5. Things that won't be happening; passing of the offering plate, handing out of bulletins, baby dedications, baptisms, and taking of communion in person.

Speaking of Communion, are we still going to do that?

1. Taking of communion is a vital part of the rhythm of any believer's life. We will prepare special zoom communion services on occasion in the coming months. Please stay tuned for more information.

Will there still be online services and zoom prayer?

1. We are working very hard to make the online service a wonderful experience. We recognize a large portion of the congregation will continue to meet via the internet, so it is important we still do this side of church well. live.chapelridge.ca is still the best place to find the online service.
2. Zoom prayer will continue with a host who is not present for the in-person service.

Final Thoughts

Please know that the leadership of Chapel Ridge have taken the process of reopening very seriously. We want to allow space to connect together and to enjoy the presence of God together. We know the service will not look at all like it has before. The constraints will change the way we receive the service, there is nothing that can be done about this. However, we can pray, we can listen to the word of the Lord and we can be together even through restrictions. We are working hard to ensure that the move to in person services does not lessen the impact of the online service. We know many of you will still choose that medium to connect with church. If this is your choice, please know we respect this choice and we are glad you are joining Chapel Ridge through this means. Thank you church for your patience as we navigate these trying times.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Luke Hazzett". The signature is written in a cursive style with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Pastor Luke