

**St. John's Seventh-Day Adventist Church
30 Aldershot St., St. John's NL
Reopening Policies**

Our church will re-open for Sabbath services on September 12. We are blessed to be able to worship together again. This document outlines how our services will proceed safely in accordance with government guidelines to prevent the spread of COVID-19.

BEFORE ATTENDING CHURCH: Everyone must complete the Self-Assessment and Online Registration:

Self-Assessment

As per the Newfoundland Government guidelines in Alert Level 2, we are advising that you observe the following protocols and answer the following questions below:

In the past 14 days, have you

- travelled outside the province?
- come in contact with anyone with COVID-19?

Do you have, or have you recently had, any of the following symptoms?

- fever
- chills
- cough
- sore throat
- headache
- difficulty breathing
- diarrhea
- new muscle or joint pain
- runny nose and/or flu like symptoms?

If you or anyone in your household answers “YES” to one or more of these statements, then we ask that you not attend the service in person. Please view our live-streamed service.

We also recommend that anyone with underlying health conditions and/or a compromised immune system watch the live-streamed service at home rather than attending in person.

Online Registration

If you plan to attend church, please register in advance each week. This will allow us to carry out contact tracing, if necessary, as well as ensuring we do not exceed the number of people (100) allowed to attend the service. We ask you to please register **by THURSDAY, before the Sabbath you wish to attend**. You can register:

- by completing the form on our church website (stjohnssda.org)
- by phone (709) 579-2530
- by email (stjohnssda@gmail.com).

If you are unable to register prior to attending, contact information will be taken upon entry.

WHEN YOU COME TO CHURCH: Please follow the guidelines below:

Entering the Building

- Enter the main entrance through the marked doors.
- Use the hand sanitizer available upon entering.
- In keeping with the Government of NL requirements, masks are to be worn in all public places, including houses of worship.
- Please bring your own mask with you and wear it upon entry.

Church Service

- Physical distancing of 6 feet must be maintained between congregants. People from the same bubble can sit together without physical distancing.
- Please sit in every second pew to allow distancing. Pews will be marked off to indicate where you can sit.
- Children should stay with their families for the duration of the service.
- The collection plate will not be passed during the service. We continue to recommend that those who can do so, use the online giving option through our church website. However, an offering plate will be placed on a designated table in the sanctuary, where you may put your tithe and offering at the appropriate time during the service.
- Hymnals and Bibles will not be available in the pew racks. Please bring your own, or follow the hymns and Scripture projected on the screen.

Use of Washroom/Cloakroom Area

- There should be only one person at a time in each of the two downstairs washrooms.
- If you need to use the washroom, please knock to see if it is occupied, and wait for the previous occupant to leave before entering.
- If you are using the staircase at the same time as someone coming the opposite direction, please wait for them to exit the stairs before you proceed.
- Please keep coats with you in the pew rather than hanging them up in the downstairs cloakroom. This will minimize the need for people to go up and down the stairs.

Exiting the Building

- Exit the sanctuary by pews through the center aisle, as led by the deacons. Please wait for a deacon to dismiss your pew.
- Exit the building using the main entrance through the marked doors.

Additional Information About Reopening

Sabbath School

Adult Sabbath School will be presented at 9:30 am in the form of a panel discussion with 2-4 panelists at the front of the sanctuary. This format will accommodate those who are viewing online.

Children's Ministries

In keeping with the Government of NL requirements for churches, the children's Sabbath School program will be cancelled at this time. Children must stay with their parents while in church.

Mid-week Programs

- Prayer meeting will be done in the form of a panel discussion, and will be available for viewing through our live-streaming.
- Adventurer, Pathfinder and Youth programs will continue at the discretion of leaders, taking into account all necessary protocols and public health guidelines.
- Community Services programs will continue, taking into account all necessary protocols and public health guidelines. Our soup kitchen program has been suspended for the duration of the COVID-19 pandemic and has been replaced by a food hamper program for those in need.