



TRINITY COUNTY HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

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PRESS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Reopening Places of Worship for Religious Services

Trinity County – As of 5/25/20, the California Department of Public Health is allowing for the statewide reopening of places of worship for religious services, with modifications, in order to limit the spread of COVID-19. Under new guidance, places of worship in Trinity County can hold religious services and funerals that limit attendance to 25% of a building's capacity – or up to 100 attendees, whichever is lower – upon approval by the county department of environmental health. To reopen for religious services and funerals, places of worship must:

- Establish and implement a COVID-19 prevention plan for every location, train staff on the plan, and regularly evaluate workplaces for compliance.
- Train employees and volunteers on COVID-19, including how to prevent it from spreading and which underlying health conditions may make individuals more susceptible to contracting the virus.
- Implement cleaning and disinfecting protocols.
- Set physical distancing guidelines.
- Recommend that staff and guests wear cloth face coverings, and screen staff for temperature and symptoms at the beginning of their shifts.
- Set parameters around or consider eliminating singing and group recitations. These activities dramatically increase the risk of COVID-19 transmission. For this reason, congregants engaging in singing, particularly in the choir, and group recitation should wear face coverings at all times and when possible, these activities should be conducted outside with greater than 6-foot distancing.



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Industry Guidance for places of worship and providers of religious services and cultural ceremonies can be found at: <https://covid19.ca.gov/pdf/guidance-places-of-worship.pdf>.

Places of worship must submit plans for reopening and receive a "Certificate of Compliance" from Trinity County Environmental Health. If you have any questions regarding this modification please email reopenbusiness@trinitycounty.org.