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Safety Guidelines for Worship

For the plan details, visit our website – www.graceumcbillings.org/covid-19

This plan was designed by the pastors of the five United Methodist Churches in Billings, in consultation with public health experts, local church leaders, and other clergy. Governor Bullock has released the “Reopening the Big Sky” plan to reopen our state in phases. This document is meant to describe how we will respond to each of the phases of reopening. When Montana state officials move from one phase to another, we will put the corresponding plan for our church into action. You can see the detailed “Reopening the Big Sky” plan [here](#).

STAY AT HOME ORDER (when the Gov. has issued a “Stay Home” order)

- Worship will be online only during a Stay At Home order.

PHASE ONE (when the Gov. moves to Phase 1 of MT state plan)

- Worship will be online only during Phase 1.

PHASE TWO (when the Gov. moves Phase 2 of MT state plan)

- Worship will be available on-line every week.
- In addition, in-person worship will be held in an outside setting once or twice a month.
- During in-person worship, the following guidelines will be adhered to:
 - Anyone showing symptoms of sickness are asked to stay home.
 - Attendees may experience worship either in their cars (with FM audio). Attendees are asked to stay in their vehicles at all times.
 - Attendees may experience worship on the lawn in designated areas for each family unit.
 - Attendees will enter the parking lot from Avenue C and be handed a bulletin and communion elements by masked and gloved volunteers
 - Electronic and mail-in offering is requested.
 - With the permission of a volunteer the church restrooms may be used. They will not be sanitized after each use so you will be using them at your own risk.

PHASE THREE (when the Gov. moves to Phase 3 of MT state plan)

- Worship will be in person with a live-stream experience of worship for those who stay home.
- Once the sanctuary is at capacity (50 people), attendees will be asked to enjoy live-streamed worship from Padgett-Goodman Hall. There will be worship leaders available to assist with any needs you have.
- Attendees should continue to maintain physical distance from people who are not part of their immediate household.
- Attendees should refrain from greeting one another with handshakes, hugs, etc.
- Communion will be served using individual wafers and cups. Servers will wear gloves.
- All attendees should wear a mask or facial covering. The church will provide masks for those who do not bring their own.
- Choir will not offer music during this time. We will provide special music during worship.
- Fellowship Time will not be held before or after worship. People are highly encouraged to leave the building following worship.