



Southern California Conference
of Seventh-day Adventists

Guidance Grid for Reopening Southern California Conference Churches

*Overriding Principle: Always follow CDC guidelines
and state or local health orders as appropriate*

ITEM/ACTIVITY	PRE-OPENING	STAGE 1 • Initial Opening	STAGE 2 • Health Orders Still in Effect
1 Vulnerable populations*	Should not participate in person	Should not attend or participate in person	Any changes as allowed per health orders
2 Temperature screening on arrival	Per state or local health orders/guidance for office settings	Temperature screening on arrival, using an infrared “touchless” thermometer	Per state or local health orders/guidance
3 In-person Sabbath school	Not permitted — use digital tools/platforms	Not permitted — use digital tools/platforms	Any changes as allowed per health orders
4 Children’s Sabbath school (cradle roll & kindergarten)	Not allowed	Not allowed	Allowed with any ongoing restrictions per health orders
5 Minimum distance from speaker or praise team to attendees	N/A	Fifteen (15) feet	If social distancing still in health order, fifteen (15) feet
6 Praise team	Allowed if total individuals at church are less than five (5) and practicing appropriate social distancing	Not allowed, instrumental music only with appropriate social distancing and masking	If social distancing still in health order and allowed by health order, allowed with appropriate social distancing among members and minimum distance of fifteen (15) feet between praise team and attendees
7 Choir	N/A	Not allowed	Per health orders regarding churches
8 Congregational singing	N/A	Not allowed	As allowed by health orders
9 Children’s story	N/A	Children not allowed in front; must be with and under direct supervision of parents all times	Allowed with compliance of health orders/guidance
10 Congregational prayer/garden of prayer	N/A	Prayer requests may be submitted via electronic means, no gathering at the front of the church	Prayer requests may be submitted via electronic means, no gathering at the front of the church unless allowed by health orders/guidance

**Vulnerable populations relating to COVID-19 are identified by the CDC as follows: People sixty-five (65) years and older; people who live in a nursing home or long-term care facility; people of all ages with underlying medical conditions, particularly if not well controlled, including: people with chronic lung disease or moderate to severe asthma, people who have serious heart conditions, people who are immunocompromised, people with severe obesity (body mass index [BMI] of 40 or higher), people with diabetes, people with chronic kidney disease undergoing dialysis, people with liver disease.*

11	Bulletins or handouts	N/A	Not allowed	Not allowed
12	Attendee documentation	N/A	Pictures with appropriate resolution/distance to identify attendees, electronic check-in process encouraged	Pictures with appropriate resolution/distance to identify attendees, electronic check-in process encouraged
13	Wearing of masks (supply of masks should be available for individuals who did not bring their own)	Mandatory for all participants when not actively speaking/singing, minimum of fifteen (15) clear feet in front of speaker/singer	Mandatory for all attendees except when unable or unsafe, i.e., small children or others to whom wearing a mask would present risk. Can only be removed while speaking on platform, and speaker must be minimum of fifteen (15) feet from any attendee	Per health orders/guidance, with minimum of fifteen (15) feet from any speaker/singer and nearest attendee
14	Offering collection	Online, mail or drop-off collection box only	Online, mail or drop-off collection box only	Online, mail or drop-off collection box only
15	Estimated maximum capacity per service in order to comply with social distancing	N/A	Twenty-five (25) percent of the building's capacity or 100 maximum attendees (whichever is less)	Dependent on social distancing as required per health orders
16	Available pew spacing and seating	N/A	Minimum of eight feet from back of pew to front of next available pew	May be adjusted based upon social distancing as required by health orders
17	Communion	N/A	Unleavened bread and grape juice must be picked up prior to service (or made at home), foot washing must observe social distancing and may only be performed by family units living together.	To be modified based on future health order guidelines
18	Cleaning between services	N/A	Thorough cleaning between services required	Per health orders
19	Entrances/doors	N/A	Should be blocked open if possible, kept sanitary per health orders/guidance and internal plan	Kept sanitary per health orders/CDC guidance for hard surfaces
20	Restrooms	Appropriate social distancing and disinfection after each use of touchable surfaces, fixtures, doors, etc., required	Appropriate social distancing and disinfection after each use of touchable surfaces, fixtures, doors, etc., required	Any modifications as allowed by health orders/guidance

21	Hand cleaners/disinfectant (supply should be kept on hand)	Make available at entry and other places as appropriate for attendees	Make available at entry and other places as appropriate for attendees and identified locations in church plan	Any modifications as allowed by health orders/guidance
22	Disinfection of podiums/microphones	Disinfection should occur prior to any individual use and at change of user	Disinfection should occur prior to any individual use and at change of user	Any modifications as allowed by health orders/guidance
23	Air handling equipment	Adjust for maximum outside air, high-quality filters put in place	Adjust for maximum outside air, high-quality filters put in place	Adjust for maximum outside air, high-quality filters put in place
24	Use of ceiling fans or other fans	Ceiling fans should not be used. Portable fans may be used at non-entry doors with fan blowing air outdoors only. Other doors and/or windows should be open to allow outside air to come in the building.	Ceiling fans should not be used. Portable fans may be used at non-entry doors with fan blowing air outdoors only. Other doors and/or windows should be open to allow outside air to come in the building.	Ceiling fans should not be used. Portable fans may be used at non-entry doors with fan blowing air outdoors only. Other doors and/or windows should be open to allow outside air to come in the building.
25	Water fountains	Should be disconnected/turned off with taping and/or signage to indicate that they are not to be used	Should be disconnected/turned off with taping and/or signage to indicate that they are not to be used	Per health orders/guidance
26	Cleaning between services	N/A	Thorough cleaning between services	Per health orders
27	In-person board or other meetings	Not permitted — use digital tools/platforms	Not permitted — use digital tools/platforms	Allowed with compliance of health orders/guidance
28	Prayer meeting/vespers	Not permitted — use digital tools/platforms	Allowed within the same guidelines as church services	Any changes as allowed per health orders
29	In-person small groups	Not permitted — use digital tools/platforms	Not permitted — use digital tools/platforms	Not allowed unless health orders permit
30	In-person Pathfinders	Not permitted — use digital tools/platforms	Not permitted — use digital tools/platforms	Allowed with compliance of health orders/guidance
31	In-person VBS	Not permitted — use digital tools/platforms	Not permitted — use digital tools/platforms	Allowed with compliance of health orders/guidance