



The People's Community Baptist Church Coronavirus Status and Procedures Updated: December 2020

Update (12/18/2020): It has come to our attention there has been a confirmed case of COVID-19 among TPCBC staff and member family. Immediately after being advised of the positive results, we took the following steps:

1. Informed anyone that may have come in contact at the church with either member
2. The building was shut down for 24 hours
3. During the 24 hour period, the building was deep cleaned
4. High touch areas were sanitized with commercial strength disinfectant

We also continue to follow the guidance of the CDC, WHO, and local authorities on recommended preventative measures and have implemented a number of practices. These include, limiting and restricting access to the building, requiring face masks be worn at all times; thermal temperature checks for ANYONE entering the building, staggered shifts for staff, limiting the number of persons in the building on Sunday. Additional updates to follow.

As The People's Community Baptist Church closely monitors the progress of COVID-19 (Coronavirus) throughout our nation and region, we are taking measured steps to prepare for any potential impact on our community. We are praying for those who have been affected by the virus and for God's protection over us all. Please partner with us in this prayer and take practical measures to mitigate the spread of the virus in your own lives.

CHURCH OPERATING STATUS

Current Operating Status: Closed

The People's Community Baptist Church will remain closed until further notice. We encourage you to continue to participate in our virtual worship services, Bible studies and activities as we prepare for a safe reopening. Many of the ministries continue to meet online as well. If you need information about your ministry's virtual meetings, please email your ministry leader.

There is limited staff on duty on various days and times of the week. Currently access to the building is confined to Tuesday and Wednesday from 9 am to 3 pm and Saturday from 9 am to 1 pm. However, building access is strictly limited and must be pre-arranged. While we are closed, there are several ways to contact us:

- Email info@tpcbc.org for general inquiries;
- Call 301-384-2601 Monday through Friday, from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., if you would like to speak to a receptionist; or
- Email the Church Administrator, dmcotton@tpcbc.org. Include “Building Access” in subject line.

In Person Bible Study Status: Suspended

Bible study has been suspended through the end of the year. Please stay tuned to the Church website for updates on virtual bible study sessions.

Worship Services: Online

All worship services are available for your virtual attendance until the government provides clearance for large gatherings to resume. All services are broadcast via social media for your convenience. Please stay connected and join us during our regular service times of 7:45 a.m. and 11 a.m., by visiting www.tpcbc.org; Youtube [@TPCBC](https://www.youtube.com/@TPCBC) ; or Facebook [@ThePeoplesCommunityBaptistChurch](https://www.facebook.com/ThePeoplesCommunityBaptistChurch).

Tithes & Offerings Online & Mail-In

If you would like to continue your tithes and/or offerings during this time, there are several ways you can give to the church:

- Online: visit www.tpcbc.org/way-to-give and select one of the digital giving options.
- Cash App: you must have the app. Make payment to [\\$tpcbc](https://cash.app/$tpcbc)
- Mail: You can send a check to the following address: TPCBC, ATTN: Trustees, 31 Norwood Road, Silver Spring, MD 20905. Please make checks payable to TPCBC.

We thank you for your faithful contributions during these unique times.

Protect One Another
Don't Stress. Take the Test.
FREE
Covid-19 Testing @ TPCBC
10:00 am - 4:00 pm
December
21, 28
Register on-site
No appointment necessary

African American Health Program

How Are We Stopping the Spread?

The safety of our members, staff and visitors is our utmost concern. We are taking the following precautions at TPCBC toward a safe and healthy reopening:

- **Face Coverings.** All persons are required to wear a face covering while on the campus grounds.
- **Daily Temperature Readings.** We now keep a temperature record at the entrance of the buildings. Please be patient while your temperature is taken with the digital thermometer, maintained and provided by the staff and volunteers. Your reading, name and contact information is recorded daily as this is our best way of maintaining the safety of all who enter.
- **Touchless Hand Washing.** We have improved our public facilities by installing automatic faucets in our restrooms to accompany the touchless paper towel and soap dispensers. Please feel free to wash your hands when you enter the building, using your paper towel to turn the door knobs as you exit the restroom.
- **Providing hand sanitizer.** There are hand sanitizer stations at each entrance, wall-mounted stations throughout our buildings' common areas as well as our classrooms and meeting spaces. Please use those when you are unable to wash your hands.
- **Disinfecting the building.** The surfaces within the Sanctuary, banquet hall, classrooms, meeting rooms, and offices are cleaned and disinfected daily. The housekeeping staff have been well informed on performing health and safety cleansing practices suggested by the County, State and CDC.
- **Socially Distant Seating/Spacing.** All building areas have been measured for County, State and CDC recommended capacities for individual patron safety. As the regulations on gatherings and groupings relax we are already preparing for your safety in this way.

COVID-19 PREVENTION



How to wear a fabric mask safely



Wash your hands before touching the mask.



Inspect the mask to see if it is dirty, damp, or damaged.



Cover your nose, mouth and chin without leaving any gaps on your face.



Remove the mask by touching the elastics only.



Wash it with soap or detergent once a day to reuse it.

How Can You Help Stop the Spread?

In General

- Wear a mask or face covering at all times when you are on the campus grounds. If you do not have a face covering, limited supplies of extra masks are available on the campus when you arrive.
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose, mouth and others with unwashed hands.
- Thoroughly wash your hands with soap and water as often as you can. Scrub your hands for at least 20 seconds.
- If you are not near a sink, use hand sanitizer. Sanitize all of the skin on your hands and rub them together until they feel dry. Refrain from shaking your hands to dry them.
- Engage in respiratory etiquette by coughing and sneezing into the bend of your elbow.
- Sanitize freshly touched surfaces in your home, school or office daily.
- Avoid coming in close contact with those who appear unwell.
- Please respect the limitations on building capacity, as this has helped us avoid a crisis within our facilities thus far.

Educate Yourself

- Learn the additional measures that high risk and vulnerable individuals should take.
- When in doubt, talk with your personal healthcare professional for guidance.
- Stay up to date on current events within your County and State for further information.



WHAT IS COVID-19?

COVID-19 is a disease caused by a respiratory virus first identified in Wuhan, Hubei Province, China in December 2019. COVID-19 is a new virus that hasn't caused illness in humans before. Worldwide, COVID-19 has resulted in thousands of infections, causing illness and in some cases death. Cases have spread to countries throughout the world, with more cases reported daily.

How COVID-19 spreads:

- Between people who are in close contact with one another (within about 6 feet)
- Through respiratory droplets produced when an infected person coughs, sneezes or talks
- These droplets can land in the mouths or noses of people who are nearby or possibly be inhaled into the lungs
- Some people without symptoms may be able to spread the virus

The best way to prevent illness is to avoid being exposed to COVID-19.

The vast majority of people recover from this infection. Most people will have mild or moderate symptoms. Older people and those with pre-existing medical conditions have a greater risk for more serious illness.

Special Enrollment for COVID-19 Health Coverage:

[Maryland Health Connection](#) offers special enrollment for health insurance until December 15. CovidCONNECT is a free online forum for those who tested positive for COVID-19. It's a place for those who have recovered — or who are in the process of recovering — from their illness.

You can promote action and find support on CovidCONNECT — share your recovery story, learn about research opportunities, find mental health resources and more.

Information found on <https://coronavirus.maryland.gov/>

RESOURCES

- [World Health Organization](#)
- [Center for Disease Control](#)
- [CovidCONNECT](#)
- [Coronavirus Resource Guide - Senior Planet](#)
- [Montgomery County Department Health and Human Services](#)
- [Montgomery County COVID-19 Information Portal](#)
- [Maryland Department of Health](#)
- [Maryland Health Connection](#)
- [Montgomery County Public Schools Update](#)
- [Reopening Montgomery](#)
- [Symptoms](#)
- [Protective Waste Collection Measures](#)
- [Prevention and Treatment](#)
- [Frequently Asked Questions](#)



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