

Advice On Return To Fuller Church Operations

The integrative models developed by the Centers for Disease Control in partnership with the University of Washington provide estimates for when COVID-19 infections will fall below one case per 1 million people. At that point, easing social distancing restrictions may be possible with containment strategies that include testing, contact tracing, isolation, and limiting of sizes of gatherings.

The current projected target date for Iowa to reach this status is June 26. What is unknown in the current models is the effect of the phased reopening of some venues and activities, beginning on April 27. **Thus, the Presbytery's best advice is for church sessions to use this projected date as an anchor point to begin thinking about how to structure a phased return to fuller church operations.**

For a comprehensive model plan, please consult this helpful document prepared by the Wisconsin Council of Churches: <https://www.wichurches.org/2020/04/23/returning-to-church/>