

RANDBURG METHODIST CHURCH

Resident Minister
Rev. Mantima Thekiso



P O BOX 4028
RANDBURG
2125

Tel: 787 2104
886 0946
Fax: 789 4406

Email:
admin@randmeth.co.za

WEBSITE:
www.randmeth.co.za

Facebook
page:
Randburg
Methodist
Church

Youtube:
Randburg
Methodist
Church



25 September 2020

Randburg Methodist Church Community

RE: Resuming In-person Services Under Lockdown Alert Level 1

Preamble:

On the 17th of September 2020, the president of South Africa, announced that the country will further ease COVID-19 regulations and move to alert Level 1 effective Monday, the 21st September 2020. As a result, the Methodist Church of Southern Africa, under the leadership and guidance of the Presiding Bishop, also issued revised guidelines, under which churches can resume in-person services.

As the COVID-19 pandemic is not yet over, we are urged to still exercise caution and strictly adhere to the level 1 regulations. These guidelines become the basis that guides our in-person services resumption plans, as the Randburg Methodist Church.

Randburg Methodist will resume in-person services on Sunday, 4th October 2020.

Randmeth Resumption Plan:

a) Structure of Services

At RandMeth, during Lockdown Level 1, we will be holding x2 integrated services,

- English service 09h30
- Vernacular service 11h30

Each service will be 1 hour long, as per the guidelines of the South African Council of Churches. This is part of the first stage of our eased approach to returning to our activities as a church. We encourage all those in attendance to evacuate the church premises immediately after the service has concluded. This is to allow the Compliance team to wrap up all necessary administration and to allow the cleaning team sufficient time to thoroughly clean the church in-between the 2 services.

No groups, cell groups and/or class meetings are allowed to gather after services.

As per regulations of resumption of gatherings in the Central Synod guidelines, there will be No Sunday school. Parents of young children are also advised that there will be No access to the play area during this time. Parents are welcome to bring children with and worship together as a family during this time. Persons over the age of sixty (60) and those with pre-existing medical conditions are strongly encouraged NOT to attend as they are still considered highly vulnerable to the virus.



b) Order of Services

As per regulations, there will be no group singing, neither choir nor band, in any of the services. Pre-recorded music may be used or a soloist may sing, standing at least 2 meters away from the nearest person, with their mask removed.

The minister or preacher may remove their masks when leading the service, standing at least 2 meters from the nearest person. Members in the congregation will be expected to wear their masks throughout the worship service.

c) Holy Communion and Baptisms

Holy Communion will be served on the 2nd week of October in both the services. For hygiene purposes, communion will be in single serve disposable cups which you will open once the Communion has been consecrated. To cater for those who would be connecting with us online, you will be able to come and collect pre-consecrated Communion for yourself the week preceding the Communion Sunday. Please note, these packs will be consecrated already by the minister and you are humbly request that you keep them until we share in the meal together when you join us through the livestreaming of the service on Sunday. Further details on the collection process will follow in due course.

There will be No Baptismal Services until further notice.



d) Sunday Collection

All are encouraged to please continue giving their Sunday Collection via electronic means such as, snap scan, EFT, bank deposit, etc. thereby minimising the need to handle money during this time.

However, a Sunday Collection tray will be available at the foyer, on arrival and throughout the services for those who wish to give their Sunday Collection in cash. Please sanitize your hands immediately after handling cash.



e) Attendance of Services

Our services will be limited to a maximum of 100 people. Please kindly note that the maximum of 100, is inclusive of those on duty, such as the minister/ preacher, steward, door steward/compliance officer, access control person.

In order to avoid the disappointment of being turned back at the gate due to the limit being reached, we will be using a pre-booking system.

Every person who wishes to attend services on Sunday, will be required to book/reserve their seat each week, as follows:



- Office landline 011 787 2104 (Monday to Thursday, 08h00 to 14h30).

RANDBURG METHODIST CHURCH



- WhatsApp 072 924 7346 (can be sent at any time, but will only be responded to Monday to Thursday, 08h00 – 14h30).



- Email – admin@randmeth.co.za (can be sent at any time, but will only be responded to Monday to Thursday, 08h00 – 15h00).
- Please note that the office will need to give confirmation 1st if you have successfully made a booking.

Please kindly note, when making a booking, the following details will be required before your booking can be confirmed:

- Name and surname of every person attending (adults and children)
- Contact number
- Email address

In order to allow other fellow congregants the opportunity to come for in-person services, you are encouraged to alternate weeks of attendance and follow our livestreamed e-worship services on every other Sunday. This will allow each of us in the community an opportunity to at least be at church twice a month while limits on numbers are still in place.

Access Control

Greater care will be taken in allowing people at the premises at a given time as per the regulations of the country. Regrettably, the church will not grant access to certain persons where risk of exposure cannot be fully confirmed. This is to protect and/or minimise exposure of fellow congregants to risk, by denying access to individuals who may have been at risk of exposure.

Access control will take place at the gate as follows:

- Temperature will be taken. If temperature is above 38 degrees – regrettably, access CAN NOT be granted.
- If you have travelled outside the country in the last 14 days – regrettably, access CAN NOT be granted.
- If you have been exposed or have been advised of exposure to someone who has tested positive for COVID-19 – regrettably, access CAN NOT be granted.
- If you have flu-like symptoms or are not feeling well – regrettably, access CAN NOT be granted.



By law, you will be required to sign an indemnity form before entry to the sanctuary. If a person is aware of the above possible risks, we kindly request that that person rather not attend services in-person, even if they have made a booking. This will minimise the risk of exposure to fellow congregants and also will go a long way in mitigating against the risk of a 2nd wave.

Once this screening is successful, each person will be issued with a green sticker, to be displayed on the person throughout the service. The green

RANDBURG METHODIST CHURCH



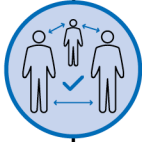
sticker shows all on duty and fellow congregants that one has been successfully screened.



Please plan sufficient time for screening process at arrival.

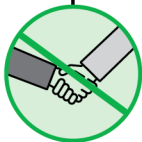
Seating arrangements

Level 1 regulations require that in the pews we sit at least 1 meter apart. The pews, therefore, will have Social Distancing markers, that will clearly show where to sit and where to leave spaces open.



Stewards and door-stewards/compliance officers on duty will help and guide congregants in this regard.

Please kindly note, families and couples are allowed to sit together without Social Distancing, however, they need to ensure they book as a family so that space is adequately provided for them in the weekly seating plan.



f) Protocol

The following protocols must be observed at all times.



✓ We must stand at least 1.5 meter apart at all times

✓ No shaking of hands



✓ No hugging

✓ No singing

✓ Wear your mask at all times

✓ Always use your elbow or a tissue to Sneeze or Cough



✓ No socialising or fellowshiping after the service, please leave church immediately after service



✓ No tea/coffee nor refreshments will be served.

✓ Wash your hands with water and soap for at least 20 seconds, alternatively, please sanitise your hands regularly. Sanitizers will be available at various stations at all times.



g) Cleaning Regime

The church will be thoroughly cleaned before Sunday and in between the 2 services every Sunday.

h) Maintaining Community through electronic media

E-Services

For those who will remain at home on Sundays, due to limited numbers allowed, a live streaming of the 2 services at the stipulated times above will be available.

RANDBURG METHODIST CHURCH



Videos of the services will also be posted on our Randburg Methodist Church Youtube channel, after each service, for viewing at your convenience.



Virtual meetings

We continue to encourage bible study, classes, organisations, mission groups and other groups to continue using virtual platforms for meetings during this period.

This will go a long way in helping mitigate against the spread of COVID-19 and against the risk of a 2nd wave.



Personal Prayer Hour

There will be a prayer hour every Wednesday strictly between 12h00-13h00 for all those who would like to come in the sanctuary and offer their personal prayer. These will not be guided and therefore there will not be a sermon shared. Numbers will be limited to 100 at a given time, with social distancing. Pre-consecrated communion will be available upon request through the office. You are humbly requested to leave silently after making your personal prayers as the sanctuary will be cleaned immediately at 13h00 after the last person. The minister will be present to pray with you where needed. Please note, there will be no laying of hands or touching allowed.



Church Office Operations

As of Monday the 28th of September 2020, the church office will be fully operational from Monday to Friday, 08h00 to 15h00.

As we all prepare and work on adjusting to the new normal, we have to keep in mind that there is no going back to the old or usual way of life. This will require us to change our behaviour and way of doing church as we know it. Let us prepare ourselves and our families, especially our children, mentally and otherwise for this new way of doing church.

You remain in my thoughts and prayers and looking forward to seeing you soon. Let us continue to pray without ceasing.

Warmest regards,

Rev. Mantima Thekiso
Resident Minister

P O BOX 4028
RANDBURG
2125

Tel: 787 2104
886 0946
Fax: 789 4406

RANDMETH BANKING DETAILS:

RANDBURG
METHODIST
CHURCH

STANDARD
BANK,
CHEQUE ACC

ACC NO:
021649995

BRANCH
CODE:
018005