

## Department of Public Health

Dottie-Kay Bowersox, MSA  
Public Health Administrator

730 Washington Avenue  
Racine, Wisconsin 53403  
262-636-9201  
262-636-9564 FAX



Website: [www.cityofracine.org/Health](http://www.cityofracine.org/Health)  
Email: [publichealth@cityofracine.org](mailto:publichealth@cityofracine.org)

**Environmental Health Division**  
262-636-9203

**Community Health Division**  
262-636-9431

**Laboratory Division**  
262-636-9571

## **Guidelines for Religious Entities from City of Racine Public Health Director Dottie-Kay Bowersox**

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

CONTACT: Dottie-Kay Bowersox  
262-636-9201

May 15, 2020

**City of Racine** – Religious entities, such as churches, synagogues, temples and mosques, are now considered essential businesses under the City of Racine Public Health Department’s local “Safer at Home” order that includes the “Turn the Dial” amendments and which is in effect until May 26<sup>th</sup>.

Religious entities are required to use technology to the greatest extent possible to avoid meeting in person. This means religious entities should keep services virtual as much as possible to limit the spread of COVID-19 in your community.

If you plan on hosting in-person religious services, please do the following:

- For buildings with less than or equal to 50,000 square feet of public space: the maximum number of people allowed is equal to 25% of the space’s occupancy load, including staff.
- For buildings with more than 50,000 square feet of public space: the maximum number of people allowed is 4 per 1,000 square feet, excluding staff.
- Keep people who do not live together at least six feet apart as much as possible.
- Everyone who is able should wear a cloth face covering.
- Strongly consider not allowing choirs, as this has spread COVID-19 in the past. If you must have a choir, limit the number of singers, space them out at least 6 feet apart, and have everyone wear a cloth face covering.
- Staff must increase standards of facility cleaning and disinfection to limit exposure to COVID-19, as well as adopting protocols to clean and disinfect in the event of a positive COVID-19 case in the religious entity.
- Staff must adopt policies to prevent individuals from entering the premises if they display respiratory symptoms or have had contact with a person with a confirmed diagnosis of COVID-19.

###