

## RE-OPENING PLAN FOR ONE IN CHRIST LUTHERAN PARISH

### A. Conditions for re-opening and closing.

1. If Governor orders close, congregation closes.
2. If increase of Covid-19 increases in our area, Parish Council and Individual Congregations decide to close as the individual congregations are affected. {For example, an out-break may happen in Albert Lea, but not affect congregations in Iowa or vice versa.}
3. Main concern is for all members of our congregation, focusing upon the most vulnerable. Encourage parishioners if feel ill, please stay home.
4. If someone in congregation, who attended worship or any congregational activity tests positive for Covid-19, the congregation will close for at least 14 days

### B. Things to do before we open.

- i. Clean and disinfect door handles, tops of pews, bathroom counters and bathroom door handles, bathroom faucets.
  - a. Recruit volunteers to help with additional weekly disinfecting.
  - b. Each Congregation decides what to clean and how often.
2. Signage posted
  - a. Social distancing.
  - b. Wearing of masks.
  - c. Use hand cleanser after entering the building.
3. Where to sit
  - a. Pews and seats will be marked  
i.e. pews may be marked - "leave empty", "sit at the end", and "sit in the middle".
4. Block off areas of building that do not need to be used to minimize disinfecting process
5. Remove hymnals and pencils from pews.
6. Do not bring in-kind donations to the church at this time - items like food donations, school supplies, etc.

### C. Worship and Gathering Guidelines

1. Everyone wears a mask.
2. No physical greeting, just waving and saying "hello"
3. Ushers wear gloves and masks.
4. Bulletins – options to distribute
  - a. Placed on a table by masks and people help themselves.
  - b. Usher hands bulletin to person.
  - c. Place in pews where people can sit.Dispose all bulletins after service.
5. Processional Offering – drop money in plates/box.

6. Ushers or designated volunteer register each person that is attending and keep track of communion participants.
  - a. Create a list with names of people who usually attend worship, so registrar can simply put a check by their name.
  - b. Attendance sheets will be collected and filed at parish office.
  - c. Attendance sheets will enable us to track people who may have been exposed if someone becomes ill.
7. Communion
  - a. Processional/Continuous Communion
    - 1) People wait at every other pew.
    - 2) Pastor drops wafer into the person's hand without touching.
    - 3) Deacon places a disposable filled cup on a stand.
    - 4) Person takes cup without touching stand.
    - 5) A bowl/container will be available to dispose of empty cup.
  - b. Use a self-contained disposable cup with wafer.
 

Question, what to do with disposable cup if in pews?
8. Altar Guild after cleaning communion utensils will disinfect cleaning area, i.e. countertops, faucets, storage closet handles and etc.
9. Usher people out after service, from back to front.
10. Complete worship is printed in bulletin so no need to use/touch hymnals.
11. No Singing in a practical sense
  - a. Hum, sing to oneself, or sing very softly into your mask .
  - b. Words of hymns will be in the bulletin, & organists will play the hymn.
12. Children Sermon – will remain seated with parents
13. No coffee fellowship – before or after worship.
14. Conversations after worship are encouraged to take place outside with social distancing.

D. Disinfect after worship and events.

Each congregation decides what to disinfect and how often.

E. Conversations about youth and children's programs and ministries - Sunday School, KC Night, Confirmation classes, First Communion classes etc. - will take place before any classes will begin. We will watch and take guidance from our area schools.

F. We will continue with a recorded online and/or live-streamed worship.

G. If at any point in time a parishioner becomes ill with COVID 19 and has been in attendance at worship or a small group gathering, the parishioner is **Highly** encouraged to contact the Parish Office so the tracking process can begin.