



*June 12, 2020*

St. Mark Family and Friends,

The newly assembled COVID-19 Response team met for the first time on Wednesday, June 10th. This team is made up of members of St. Mark who have experience in health care, policies, business protocols, and a passion for making sure we are all cared for in safe and secure ways. Members of the team include: Pastor Mollie Dvorak, Tory Pluchek (Office Manager), Sandy Geslin (Housekeeper), Dave Mundale (Council President), Linda Madsen, Mary Mortenson, Kent Barnard, and Floyd Saunders.

The purpose of this team is to partner with the council as we move forward into our new reality. The plans created will address sterilization procedures, building usage, timeline in terms of re-opening, and caring for the members of St. Mark within safe guidelines.

One of the top priorities we discussed, and will work on first, is the safety of our staff in terms of building use. We are aware that some work of the church needs to take place in the building itself, such as: worship music recordings, counting offerings, keeping the building clean, and checking mailboxes for council members. As of now we have a sign-in sheet everyone must fill out when they enter and leave the building to keep track of who has been inside the building and when.

As a team we are limiting the number of people coming in and out of the building to cut down on exposure to one another's aerosols (the air we breathe in and out). We ask that the community of St. Mark be cautious and intentional on visits to the church building. If you **do** need to come into the building we ask you do the following:

- Wear a mask as you enter the narthex (public gathering place with high traffic).
- Sign-in at the podium.
- Use hand sanitizer when you come in and as you leave.
- Go directly to where you need to get your work done (Sanctuary for worship team, office for counting/mailboxes, etc.)
- If you are coming to drop something off or pick something up, please ring the doorbell--it will go right to Pastor Mollie and Tory's cellphones and we can communicate with you via intercom to figure out the best plan of action.

As the COVID-19 Response Team continues to meet, we are committed to communication with the congregation of next steps and timelines. We are making sure we are following all suggested policy changes based on CDC and MPH regulations, and ELCA recommendations.

If you have any questions or concerns and wish to reach out, please contact [office@stmarkcp.org](mailto:office@stmarkcp.org) and we will get it to the COVID-19 Response Team.

As the body of Christ we will walk together through uncharted territory, holding on tight to the promises of love, justice, and peace for all of God's people!

Peace to You,  
St. Mark COVID-19 Response Team