

COVID-19 TASK FORCE UPDATE – June 19, 2020

OUTSIDE SERVICE:

We resumed our Outside Service on June 14th. Seventy-three worshipers attended and followed the guidelines intended to keep everyone safe.

- Wearing a face covering (mask) is required. Face covering policy does not apply to young children.
- Hand sanitizing stations are set up for use as needed.
- Refrain from touching your face, nose, eyes.
- When gathering and worshipping, maintain social distance of 6 ft. from everyone outside of your immediate family.
- Bring a lawn chair; chairs available for those who do not bring their own.
- Umbrellas can be brought to protect from the sun's rays.
- Bathrooms will be open.
- There will be no communion distribution.
- There will be singing and unison speaking.
- In the event of bad weather the service will be cancelled.

Our primary concern is to keep everyone safe. If you are uncomfortable attending in person at this time, please join us through St. Paul's website on the "RECORDED SERVICES" page

Following our first service on June 14th, we are making the following adjustments:

- During the service we experienced significant interference from a neighbor's loud radio. Obvious she was purposely attempting to disrupt our worship service. What should we do in such a disruptive situation that is intended to challenge our faith? We could confront her; we could move our service to the parking lot where it would be much hotter on the blacktop; we could close down our service. Instead, we will display our Christian love by making easy adjustments. We will move the tents and equipment closer to the church building. In this way you can sit closer to the building and further away from the neighbor, and the York St. traffic. And we will pray that she will be influenced by our display of Christian love and tolerance. This challenge should not deter us from practicing our faith and continuing our summer lawn service.
- Touch-less hand sanitizers have been ordered. The pump sanitizers were difficult to use when hands are occupied with purses, chairs, etc.
- Setting-up/tear-down team is asked to wear gloves. We will do a better job at making the gloves accessible. Out of respect for our Sexton, please wear clean gloves for both set-up and tear-down. Not wearing gloves requires Lorraine to sanitize everything.

- It is our intent to tape the outdoor service, making it available on our website around noon on each Sunday. However, we ran into a snafu on June 14th and we are working to resolve the issues. In the meantime, the website will continue to carry a weekly service taped earlier in the week from the sanctuary.

INSIDE SERVICE:

When will we resume services in our Sanctuary? We cannot conduct inside services during the pandemic unless we can improve air flow in the Sanctuary. We are searching for options.

OPENING THE BUILDING FOR SERVICES, COMMITTEE AND GROUP MEETINGS, SCHOOLS, SPACE RENTAL, ETC:

The building will remain closed throughout the summer and may possibly reopen on September 13th. We will keep you informed.

Staff will continue to work from home, and from the office as necessary to complete duties.

Refer to the “Message for Committees, Missions, and Groups” posted on the St. Paul’s website under COVID-19 Updates to learn how to protect everyone from the Coronavirus when gathering together.

BUILDING SANITATION:

We continue to maintain high standards on sanitizing the building and allowing access to various rooms/areas. Our Sexton follows CDC standards in regards to cleaning and supplies. Additionally, we are purchasing a defogger, along with the appropriate foamicide. This equipment will provide a thorough cleaning including hard to reach areas in a timely and efficient manner.

The COVID-19 Task Force will continue to meet over the summer months as we oversee the safety and health of our congregants.

We welcome any input, suggestions, concerns. Please feel free to contact any Task Force member: Pastor Burkhart, Suzanne Butler, Carla Hausmann, Russ Johnson, Peg Sennett (Chair).

Guidance from the CDC: One of the more insidious habits of the new coronavirus is its tendency to settle into unsuspecting hosts who never show signs of being sick but are able to spread the virus to others. Up to 40%-45% of coronavirus cases can likely be traced to people who spread the virus without ever knowing they were infected.