

# FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH, LINDSTROM, MN

## COVID-19 Congregational Preparedness Plan -

### Safety Procedures and Expectations for Returning to In-Person Worship

After careful conversation, prayer, and planning, our C.A.R.E. Team has established the following procedures and expectations for resuming In-Person worship beginning on November 1, 2020. The decisions were based on guidelines and recommendations from the Center for Disease Control, the MN Department of Health, and the MN Annual Conference of the UMC.

With the understanding that we must remain safe as we open our church building once again, there will be the following expectations of all who choose to attend In-Person worship.

1. First and foremost, if you are not feeling well or have a temperature, please remain at home.
2. All participants will be asked to wear a facial covering which includes the nose and mouth. If you do not have one with you there will be some available at the church door.
3. We ask that your facial covering remains on throughout the church service.
4. We ask you to use the hand sanitizer stations that will be provided and located at all entrances into the church and sanctuary.
5. We will enter only through the main east upper and north side parking lot doors.
6. Upon entry all will be asked to use sanitizer by the ushers at the door.
7. Ushers will ask and advise those entering church to maintain a safe 6-ft distance and will advise all to enter and go directly to a seat location that is a safe distance from other church attendees.
8. The pews that will be in use will be clearly indicated. Do not be offended if you are asked to relocate.
9. Immediate family members may sit next to one another if this is their regular persons of exposure.
10. No hymnals, bibles, or bulletins will be available. Service order and hymns will be projected on the front wall. If you are having trouble seeing the service order or hymn please relocate yourself in a safe location that makes this possible.
11. You may choose to sing with the hymns, while maintaining your facial covering only.
12. Communion will continue to be provided by use of individually wrapped cups and wafers.
13. No formal fellowship (coffee/treats) will occur at the end of the service. The fellowship hall will not be available for use. Any informal fellowship after worship will still require adequate physical distancing.
14. Sunday school classes and nursery services will be suspended until it is determined to be safe practice.
15. Restrooms will be available if necessary, however, the exterior doors are to remain open when the restroom is not in use. Only one person should use the restroom at any time. If the door is closed, the restroom is in use. Please remember to open and prop the door as you leave.
16. Once again, it is advised that any persons who have underlying health issues, have a temperature or in a poor state of health, have been exposed to any persons with or is suspected of having the Covid-19 virus, or is placed in quarantine are asked to remain at home.
17. Worship will continue to be streamed live on our church Facebook page and posted on our church website for viewing the following week.

*Note: We will continue to monitor the ever-changing status and spread of the coronavirus and make or change decisions on behalf of our congregation, out of love and concern, with everyone's safety in mind.*

- C.A.R.E. Team: Terry Kopp, Rebecca Ervasti, Barbara Prindle, Mark Vanderwerf, Donn Arnold, and Pr. Dale