**Return to In-Sanctuary Services**

As you know, the Building Re-opening Committee of St. Paul Lutheran Church was formed in June 2020 and has been diligently and faithfully meeting to monitor active COVID cases, vaccination rates in St. Clair County, and CDC guidelines. At the October 11th Council meeting, the Building Re-opening Committee presented a tentative re-opening date with guidelines for re-opening. The Council approved their recommendation and the tentative re-opening date has been set for Sunday, November 28th with services to be held at 8 AM and 10:30 AM.

This re-opening is wonderful news but please keep in mind the need for being respectful and responsible --- we’ve come so far and now is not the time to throw caution to the wind by not following the necessary preventive measures. Now is also the time to offer our sincere appreciation to each member of the Building Re-Opening Committee for their tireless efforts and for bringing us to this point---Thanks to: Linda Barker, Marcus Middleton, Laurie Morris, Cathy Steuwer, Chris Matts and Pastor Bonnie!

Let’s follow the outlined preventive measures that protect the most vulnerable among our congregation, including our young children, the elderly and those with compromised immunities or underlying conditions, and the body of believers at St. Paul. We will continue to monitor our metrics and safety measures will be revisited as conditions change.

**In order for a safe, successful, and smooth building re-opening, we need everyone to do their part by kindly respecting these measures.**  We will need three ushers per service to facilitate physical distancing of family groups as well as volunteers for cleaning the seats, surfaces, and bathrooms.

**Preventive Measures For In-Sanctuary Services:**

1. **Properly worn masks (covering nose and mouth)** **are required at all times** **to protect the most vulnerable among us.** Those unwilling to comply will be asked to leave the building.
2. Upon entering the building, each member must complete a waiver form to hold harmless St. Paul Lutheran Church, its employees, agents and representatives, of and from all liabilities, claims, actions, damages, costs or expenses of any kind arising out of or relating to your participation in our worship services. This waiver will remain in effect through December 2022, at which time it will need to be updated as deemed necessary by our insurance company.
3. There will be a maximum of 34 people in the sanctuary with an additional seven (7) people in the Narthex. Maintain six (6) feet physical distance between family groups as assisted by the ushers.
4. Two worship services will be offered. **Pre-registration for worship will be required to achieve these limitations**. Registrations will be taken in the order of call in. Please call 810-982-9853 by the Thursday prior to each service, stating your name, number of attendees and which service you want to attend. Please leave your phone number in case registrations exceed the limit per service.
5. No congregational singing will occur at this time. A soloist may be offered.
6. No coffee hour will be held at this time; fellowship will occur outside.
7. Communion bread and wine will be available at the back of the sanctuary to be picked up as you enter on Communion Sundays.
8. Offerings will be collected at the back of the sanctuary as you enter.
9. Attendees will **enter from the double doors**, filling the front rows first. Exiting will begin with the back rows first. The Pastor will maintain social distancing and not greet people following worship as in past.
10. Three (3) volunteers will be needed to usher at each service and three (3) volunteers will be needed after each service to wipe down chairs, bathrooms, doorknobs and other frequently touched items. Sign up by calling or emailing Karen Lee at 810-985-5539, 810-334-4478, or kalee4050@comcast.net

**SEE YOU IN CHURCH!**