

Resuming In-Person Worship at Fjeldberg

With an abundance of caution, the Congregation Council of Fjeldberg Lutheran Church has approved a plan to resume in-person worship.

We are taking extra care because of our concern for the well-being of ALL people in our congregation.

Requirements for In-person Worship:

1. We will worship in-person once in July (July 19) and twice in August (August 2 and 16).
2. On-line worship will continue even after in-person worship resumes. (On-line worship will continue in the format we have been using.)
3. Those in at-risk groups are *strongly encouraged* to worship at home (Examples: chronic illness, over 70, respiratory conditions like asthma or COPD, diabetes, or suppressed immune system).
4. Those with symptoms, those who have been exposed to the virus, and those who have traveled recently should *NOT* attend worship until they know they do not carry the virus.
5. Communion will not be served.
6. There will be no singing and no choir.
7. Children will remain in their seats for the children's message.
8. There will be no Sharing of the Peace and no handshaking before or after worship.
9. Worship will be shortened to approximately 30 minutes.
10. Masks shall be worn. Worshipers are asked to bring their own masks. Disposable masks will be provided if needed. Children are asked to wear masks. Where this is impractical, family seating areas will be set aside for families with young children.
11. Worshipers will be reminded at the start of worship to maintain distance and no contact.
12. Worshipers will not use other parts of the building.
13. There will be no food or treats served.
14. Access will be limited to the south (elevator) and east (sanctuary) entrances only. Doors will be propped open, so we do not need to touch door handles.
15. Hand sanitizer is at each entrance. (We will soon have no-touch sanitizer dispensers.)
16. The nursery will not be open.
17. Frequently touched items will be removed (hymnals, Bibles, visitor cards, kids' activity bags, cards & pencils in pew racks).

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18. Worshipers will sit in every third pew. Only members of the same household may share a pew.
19. There will be a single usher at each entrance to ask worshipers to go directly to their seat to prevent gatherings at the entrances.
20. Bulletins will not be printed; the order of the service will be projected on the screen.
21. The pastor, lectors, and others who speak in worship will wear masks, even while speaking. They shall sit at the front to avoid walking past others.
22. Instrumental music may be used for worship (piano, organ, or handbells). Musicians shall sit where they avoid walking past others. We will not have vocalists.
23. Offering plates will not be passed, but will be placed at the back of the sanctuary.
24. Usher(s) dismisses congregation from back to front.
25. If, after attending worship, a worshiper subsequently tests positive, they need to notify the church office so that information can be relayed to the whole congregation (all names withheld). No individual records are being kept by Fjeldberg.
26. Worshipers are asked to minimize restroom use and only use the upstairs restrooms.