

Return to Worship/Post Quarantine Protocols

Bethlehem Lutheran Church, Pemberville, Ohio

Purpose: Provide safe area(s) for in-person worship. Ensure compliance with the State of Ohio Stay At Home orders and Responsible Restart Ohio state guidelines.

Member Responsibilities:

- If you are not feeling well, or have been exposed to someone who has shown symptoms, please do not come to church in person. Keep your neighbors safe.
- Bring a personal hand sanitizer with you to worship if possible.
- Wear masks on the way in & out. Follow the state guidelines for mask wearing.
- Participate in an attendance system in case of a positive COVID-19 case notification. (Ohio Department of Health requirement)

Building Preparation:

- Education Building Entrances - members to wash hands in restrooms before entering the sanctuary, or use personal hand sanitizer
- Cedar St. (West) sanctuary doors - Use church supplied hand sanitizer.
- Ushers/greeters open exterior doors for members
- East Education Unit door Signage: "Please use elbow to open"
- Wipe down (Disinfect) pews in between and after services & re-stock supplies as necessary.
- Prop Restroom doors open.
- Worship Audio/Video feed of the service to be broadcast/streamed into Lounge & fellowship hall.

Worship Space Preparation:

- Physical distancing will be maintained
- Spacing: (Seating)
 - Every other pew, fill front to back.
 - Immediate family sit together.
 - Rope off pews to be avoided. 30 pews available for use. Approximately 120-140 members can be accommodated at a service.
 - Fellowship Hall and lounge will serve as overflow seating.
 - Fellowship Hall will be arranged to ensure physical distance compliance and filled from north to south.
 - Lounge will be arranged to ensure physical distance compliance.
 - We will follow the Ohio Department of Health for maximum occupancy in each space.
- When the sending is given, we will remind those attending that we will -
 - Release from the back pews first, then work toward the front, maintaining physical distancing.
 - Release Fellowship Hall from south to north.
- Elder(s) light and extinguish the candles before the service.

Worship Preparation:

- Pastor or worship leaders will enter & exit from the south part of the sanctuary or the sacristy.
- Worship materials: bulletins in basket, hymns printed in bulletin.
- Offering: collection plates located at the sanctuary entrances.
- Share the peace: A non-contact version of will be used.
- No communion until further notice.
- Continue to make worship available on-line, radio service to those who wish to stay home.
- Send mailings of bulletin to those who request it.

Contingency items

- If case of a member/guest testing positive for COVID-19, we will
 - Notify the Wood County Health Department.
 - Notify the congregation of the positive test. Specifically, those who attended in person worship for the previous two (2) weeks
 - Suspend in-person worship for a time.
 - Complete a professional cleaning and disinfecting.
- Re-evaluate procedures and revise as necessary.