



# All Saints Lutheran Church

2951 Chapel Valley Road  
Fitchburg, WI 53711

*Called to Know, Follow, and Share Jesus*

May 23, 2020

Dear friends at All Saints,

Church council recently met, and we are writing to update all of you on our discussions and decisions. We hope that everyone is doing well and staying healthy. We especially thank our staff who have been working hard to adjust to our new way of worship. Thanks to Pastor Kristin, John Francis, and many others for rising to the challenge of learning how to keep us connected. They have spent countless hours creating and editing our services for worship.

We also want to thank all of you for helping in many ways. Some of you are now contributing music and readings for our services. Some are working on our church grounds. Some have been able to increase their financial giving. Sharing all your these gifts is appreciated and continues to be needed. Please continue to share your time, talents, and financial resources with All Saints Church as you are able.

We realize that there are many people at All Saints that may be struggling at this time. Struggles could be financial, loneliness, or difficulty obtaining essentials such as groceries. We have organized several members of All Saints that will be calling to check and see how you are doing. Please let them know if you have any needs and we will try to help.

Our church council has been reviewing guidelines and recommendations for in-person services. (If you would like to see the guidelines from the ELCA and the Wisconsin Council of Churches, contact Heather and she will send them to you.) Currently, Dane County is requiring that any in-person church services limit attendance to less than 25% of capacity. However, the recommended best practice is to continue services on-line at this time. Our council has decided to continue with online-only services for at least the next month.

We will continue to monitor the situation to decide when we can meet in-person again for worship. We all miss seeing one another, miss our church building, and miss in-person services. We also want to assure that everyone stays healthy. We want our church to be a safe and joyous place.

In the meantime, our worship and property committees will work on the logistics of how we can safely come together again for worship. There will be many changes in how we worship in person. Changes we may need to consider include: asking people to stay home if they are sick, wearing face coverings, limiting person-to-person contact, limiting the amount of people in the building, arranging seating to allow for physical distancing, eliminating singing, shortening services, increasing cleaning practices, providing hand sanitizer, avoiding touching shared surfaces, considering alternatives for childcare, and considering what we would need for outdoor worship.

This will not be a simple process and will require some planning. Thank you for being patient as we navigate this “new normal” and decide when and how to proceed safely.

Thank you to everyone for your additional contributions of time, talents, and finances. Our church grounds look great. It is wonderful to see many of you in our on-line worship services and coffee hours. Our finances were much better for the month of April. We are all grateful to be part of the community of All Saints as we navigate these unusual times together.

God’s peace,

All Saints Council – Deanna Simonson, Kervin Soko, Ron Miller, Joan Stoikes,  
Tracey Schoohs, Gary Kriesel, Margie Rem, Bob Lavigna, Pastor Kristin Woelk

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