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Pastor Ross W. Ulrich
Pastor Daniel Slaughter
Principal, Bryan Schneck

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Dear Members of Zion Evangelical Lutheran Church,

“They continued to hold firmly to the apostles’ teaching and to the fellowship, to the breaking of the bread, and to the prayers” (Acts 2:42). As Christians we recognize that gathering together around Word and Sacrament is an essential part of the Christian faith and life. It is alone through these means of grace that God strengthens our faith in Jesus’ death and resurrection for us. Through faith in Jesus he assures us of our victory over death and our life with him, not only now on earth but even beyond this life into eternity in heaven.

In light of these Biblical truths, Zion will resume public worship beginning in June with proper safeguards in place. Our church doors will be open and you are welcome to join us as we gather for Word and Sacrament. **You are free to come to church when you feel comfortable doing so.**

As we begin, we’ll start out with the following services in June and then evaluate whether they are meeting our needs. **We plan on worshipping Wednesdays @ 7 pm—June 3, 10, 17, & 24. We plan on worshipping Sundays –June 7, 14, 21, and 28 @ 8:30 a.m. and 10:30 a.m. We plan to worship Tuesday, June 9 @ 1:30 p.m.**

In all these services, we will maintain social distancing for all who are not in the same family. **We ask that you arrive earlier so that you may be ushered to a seat and disinfect the area that you are occupying.** Disinfectant will be provided. The reason we ask you do this: 1) you know the area will be clean and 2) no one else will need to do it. In order to provide enough space for all, we are limiting the number of members to 90 per service. **We ask that you reserve your worship service** in order that we don’t have to turn people away from church for having too many. It will also help us keep track of how many materials (i.e. bulletins, communion elements, etc. . .) to have available.

To reserve a worship service please email (office@zionmonroe.org) or call ((734)242-1378). Tell us what service you plan to attend, how many in your family are attending, and how many will commune. Please let us know Tues. by noon if you are attending Wed. 7 p.m. service. Please let us know Fri. by 10 a.m. if you are attending either the Sun. 8:30 a.m. or 10:30 a.m. service. Please let us know Mon. by 10 a.m. (June 8) if you are attending the 1:30 p.m. Tues., June 9 service. THANK YOU SO MUCH FOR YOUR COOPERATION.



In some ways, these might seem like normal services. In some ways, these might not seem normal at all. There will be bulletins. For now, please do not fill out communion cards. We suggest that people not use the hymnals for the time being. It would be fine to bring your own hymnal, if you wish. We will not be passing offering plates. There will be an opportunity to place offerings in a box before or after the service. (Thanks again to those members who have already been mailing in offerings and giving electronically by direct deposit.)

Please remain six feet apart from those who are not in your own family. Of course, families may sit together. Please stay six feet apart on the way in and on the way out. One of the first temptations will be to shake hands and give people hugs. Please do not do that at this time. (Yes, it may seem distant and strange, but we are trying to keep to the guidelines.) You may wear a mask if you choose to but they are not required. Pastors will not be wearing one to lead the service. Please bring your own hand sanitizer if you desire.

No one should feel badly about not participating in these services. If you are not comfortable, please wait and just watch the services online or request printed sermons and bulletins. Private communion is available by appointment at other times too for those who desire it.

- **If you desire to worship with us at home at this time, God bless you in that decision!**
- **If you desire to worship with us in person, God bless you in that decision!**

Here are a few questions to consider before making an appointment to attend:

- Do I consider myself/my family to be in the low risk category?
- Do I, or someone in my home, work with people who are more vulnerable?
- Do I regularly care for someone who is at much higher risk than I?
- Am I confident that I am feeling well and have no temperature before leaving my home?
- Do I generally recover relatively quickly from common illnesses?
- Am I willing to follow the temporary restrictions that will be necessary to worship together at this time?
- If I have children, am I certain that they will remain 6 feet apart from others?
- Do I have any concerns about attending at this time?

Your attendance is a great encouragement that is beneficial to your spiritual health, the spiritual health of those around you, and beneficial to the world (Hebrews 10:24-25; Colossians 3:16-17; 2 John 12; 1 Timothy 2:1-6). At the same time, we expect you to consider both your physical health and the physical health of those around you (5th Commandment), as you decide whether to attend. There is no promise from God that you cannot get sick while attending church. In matters of health we should trust the Lord without testing the Lord (Matthew 6:25-34; Luke 4:12). Please also respect the faith guided decision of those who make different decisions than you would (Romans 14:22-23).

If you desire to worship with us at home at this time, God bless you in that decision. If you desire to worship with us in person, God bless you in that decision (Romans 14:22-23).

“The Lord be with your spirit. Grace be with you.” 2 Timothy 4:22

Your undershepherds in Christ,

Pastor Daniel Slaughter

Pastor Ross Ulrich