

IMMANUEL'S INSIGHTS MAY 2020

Immanuel Lutheran Church Plan for Worship in the Pandemic

We will continue to record our worship service each week and post it on Vimeo at (https://www.facebook.com/ilcharlan) as well as broadcasting the service on HMU (Sundays and Wednesdays at 6:00 p.m.) and on FMCTC (Mondays at 6:00 p.m.)

We encourage anyone who is over 60 or who has any underlying health risks to stay safe at home and to participate remotely. The Holy Spirit is with you and the Spirit works through the Word whether recorded or in person.

For those who have no risk factors, we will welcome you to worship at Immanuel beginning on Saturday, May 16, at 5:00 p.m. and Sunday, May 17, at 9:00 a.m. However, we ask you to not come to worship at Immanuel if you feel less than healthy (fever, cough, or sore throat) or if you have been exposed to someone who has COVID symptoms in the past 7 days.

We will use only the front doors on the west side of the building. Someone will be there to open the door for you.

We strongly recommend that people wear masks in the building in order to protect the environment for others. We will have masks available for you to take and use and then take home for later use after cleaning. Both Saturday and Sunday worship services will be in the sanctuary.

There will be no greeters or ushers. At the back of the sanctuary there will be bulletins available and an offering plate. We ask that people not congregate outside the sanctuary but instead go right into the sanctuary to find a seat. No hand shaking, please.

We ask every individual or family group to maintain 6 feet of distance from others so that no one needs to feel uncomfortable. Seating will be in every other pew on each end. That means we will be limited to about 75 people per worship service. We don't expect that to be a problem because we believe most of our members will be staying home.

There will be no coffee and donuts after worship. That alone will keep our in-person attendance down. People are asked to leave the building immediately following the worship service. Visiting may take place at a safe distance in the parking lot.

We will be sharing communion. It will be set up by volunteers who wear gloves and masks. We will use a careful social distancing method of distribution.

All of this is subject to change based on COVID-19 rates in our community. Please check our website (harlanimmanuel.org) or Facebook page for the latest information.

There will be no Sunday School classes for children this month. The Adult Bible Class will be meeting on Zoom, Sunday mornings 10:30 to 11:30. Bring your own donuts and coffee. Call Pastor Phil (579-2098) if you need help getting on Zoom.