

Small Group Reentry Plan—Tuesday, June 30, 2020

Trinity Lutheran Church will begin welcoming back both previously scheduled as well as newly scheduled small groups as of **Wednesday, June 17, 2020**.

“Small Groups” will be defined by echoing the Minnesota Department of Health’s *Stay Safe MN Phase III Guidance for Gatherings: Faith-based Communities, Places of Worship, and Ceremonies* (June 15, 2020) and any other updated recommendations from MDH.

Policy and Procedure for our small group gatherings will be as follows:

1. This plan will be evaluated, monitored, executed, and updated under the supervision of one of our regular on-site staff (pastors or office admin) or their designates.
2. This plan will be posted onsite in the church office, as well as submitted to TLC’s council.
3. A “small group” will be defined as any group meeting for any purpose at TLC other than worship.
4. For the purposes of this plan and its procedures for small groups, the size of gatherings at TLC will be determined by the indoor space intended to be used in such a way that occupancy allows physical distancing of at least 6 feet between people who do not live in the same household, or 50% of total capacity.

For the rooms most often used at TLC’s campus, some guidelines for occupancy are as follows:

Fellowship Hall: 20

Trinity Library: 12

Choir Room: 6

Upstairs Large Classroom: 8

Trinity Crossing: ???

PLEASE NOTE:

- These are only approximate numbers and assume that occupants are not from the same household.
 - Occupants who are from the same household would still need to wear masks but could occupy space together within the 6-foot physical distancing radius, while also maintaining the distanced guideline from others.
5. Policies and procedures will be printed (see **“Small Group Covid-19 Guidelines and Procedure”**), and a contact person from each small group will be provided a copy and oriented to oversee the implementation of these procedures, including post-gathering sanitation.
 6. These are the policies and procedures to be followed in an effort to stem the spread of Covid-19 and to care for the safety and health of our congregation, its staff, and the small groups we welcome to use our facilities:
 - Participants who...
 - ...are feeling ill or exhibiting any kind of respiratory symptom (coughing, sneezing, etc.) or any symptom associated with Covid-19 (fever, shortness of breath, chills, muscle aches, loss of taste or smell, etc.);
 - ...have knowingly been exposed to or tested positive for Covid-19;
 - ...are at higher risk for severe illness (elderly or underlying health conditions) or have a compromised immune system (chemotherapy patients, etc.); or
 - ...are at a higher risk of exposing others (i.e., nursing home employees, etc.)should be encouraged to stay home.
 - No more than the designated number of persons at a time for the room designated for use may occupy the building/assigned space.
 - All participants must wear a mask over their mouths and noses at all times while inside the building and in the presence of others.
 - Participants will only occupy all bathrooms one at a time.
 - Handwashing and hand sanitizing will take place frequently.
 - Physical distancing of 6 feet or more will be maintained at all times.

- Do not hand around items to be touched by multiple people.
 - Where the room will allow for it, ventilation and air flow will be helped along with open windows and fans.
 - Groups outside of the mission and ministry of TLC will need to provide their own masks and sanitary wipes. TLC will provide sanitizing bleach solution.
 - In the event that a contact trace would need to be performed because of a potential exposure, a list of the event's attendees and their contact information must be maintained by the group.
7. Documentation of both orientation to and completion of these policies/procedures will be filed with the church office immediately upon completion of the scheduled group/event.

Thank you for your willingness to care for each other and especially those who might be most vulnerable in following these protocols.