

First United Methodist Church
Worship Plan Update
January 12, 2021

Greetings in Christ,

The Health and Safety Team continues to work to ensure that we will be in a safe environment as we enter the sanctuary for in-person worship. This Sunday, January 17, in-person worship will resume. There are now three ways to worship on Sunday morning, through YouTube, Zoom, and in-person. The Health and Safety Team will modify the following guidelines with guidance from our Conference and local health officials. Active, confirmed cases of COVID-19 at the county level should be stable or on the decline for 14 days to lessen restrictions for sanctuary worship. These guidelines are inviting us to observe safe practices for our well-being and the well-being of those around us.

FYI: Sheridan Memorial Hospital (SMH) is administering COVID vaccinations to people who are 70 years of age or older. Call (307) 675-4471 if you wish to make an appointment.

Entering and exiting the Church: As you enter and exit the Church and sanctuary, you will wear a mask. Please enter through the main glass entry located by the parking lot. When the service concludes, we will exit through the main doors and the rear of the sanctuary. If you do not have a mask, the Church will provide one at the entry door.

Seating: Ushers will be directing the seating, and we ask that you please follow their direction. Pews are marked for seating allowance on both the main floor and balcony following the six-foot CDC guideline. The seating arrangement will accommodate single and multiple/family worshippers.

Singing and Reciting (Prayer and Liturgy): If you wish to participate by singing and reciting the liturgy, you will keep your mask on, covering the nose and mouth. The Bells have been practicing, and we hope to have the joy of their music from time to time. You will notice that all materials (Bibles, Song Books, Paper materials) are removed from the pews. You may check out a hymnal to use during the service if you wish to do so. Please bring your own Bible if you use one during the service.

Communion: On Communion Sundays, as you enter the sanctuary, ushers will provide you a communion cup with both wafer and juice together. An Usher will provide those requiring a gluten-free wafer in an individual container. As you depart the service, we ask that you dispose of your communion containers in baskets by the exit doors.

Gifts and Offerings: There will be no in-pew plate collection. However, collection plates are at both doors, and you can leave your offering as you enter or exit.

Prayer requests: These will continue to be collected through texted/messaged to the Pastor for the prayer time.

Finally, and as much as many of us want to, please avoid physical contact with others. A hug from a distance, an elbow knock, a wave will help you communicate your love to others. We are grateful for your patience, cooperation, and consideration of others throughout this process. The Health and Safety Team's next meeting is on February 15.

Grace and Peace,
Health and Safety Team

Don Winkelmann, Barbie Flack, Billy Taylor, Diane Hall, Butch Bennett, Rev. Jim Barth