



Federated Church

“We are called to nurture a growing relationship with God by following the example of Jesus Christ.”



Dear Members,

We truly miss seeing you, passing the peace and having fellowship.

Our Governing Council has decided to resume in-person church services beginning Thursday, July 9 at 6:30 pm, and Sunday July 12, at 10:00 am.

We want you to know that worship services will look and feel very different from what we have experienced in the past. Here's a preview of what to expect:

****Everyone will enter through the northwest doors. This is the only door that will be used. Markings on the sidewalk will help you maintain social distancing as you enter the church. Doors will be opened for you.**

****Masks will be required for everyone over the age of 2. If you do not bring a face mask, one will be provided for you. Hand sanitizer will be available right inside the door.**

****The Narthex will be roped off and the only restroom available will be the one in the library. Parental supervision is requested when children use the restroom.**

****You will be ushered to a seat beginning toward the front of the sanctuary. Pews have been marked to comply with social distancing. At the end of the service you will be ushered out—beginning at the back of the sanctuary.**

****There will be no Cafe La Fed and no fellowship time, at this time.**

****The Order of Service, Scripture readings and announcements will be presented on the screens during the service. Bibles, hymnals and attendance folders will be removed from pews. You are encouraged to bring your personal Bible. Paper bulletins will not be available at the service; you may request one from the church office (at another time) or print one from the website.**

****While there will be music played (either live instrumental or recorded singing), we will not have public singing for the time being – following safety concerns of national choral directors.**

****We will not pass the offering plates during services. There will be a container near the entry for you to drop in your offering.**

As we begin to resume public activities, please know that we are doing so through a careful process of discussion and discernment, with an abundance of caution and concern for everyone. Services will continue to be recorded and be available as before. This issue is complex and constantly evolving.

The sources we used for constructing these guidelines included, but were not limited to the following:

- Recommendations from Presbyterian Church USA and UCC Conference
- East Central District Health Department
- Nebraska Department of Health and Human Services
- Centers for Disease Control and Prevention
- Briefings from the governor of Nebraska

We will continue to monitor this situation and make changes as they are appropriate. Services will continue to be available online and on Spectrum local broadcast, as before.

We feel strongly that the decision to attend church in person or not, is an individual decision which we respect.

These guidelines were developed by a task force (the Worship & Music committee). They were approved by the Governing Council, Pastor Edward and Dr. Nila Novotny from the Membership and Growth committee. Please ask Pastor Edward or anyone on the Governing Council or Worship & Music committee if you have questions.

Best wishes to all our congregation as we strive to find a way to worship during this historic pandemic. We support all ways of worship: in person, live-streaming and watching the service at your leisure.

Peace & grace,

Marcia Grant, Church President

Linda Wheatley, Governing Council and Worship & Music Task Force

Alison Wagner, Governing Council and Worship & Music Task Force

Dr. Nila Novotny, Membership & Growth Committee Chairperson

Pastor Edward Yang, Acting Head of Staff