

# COVID-19 UPDATE – On November 23, 2020

## Gov. Wolf issued updated orders

Due to increased positivity tests throughout the Commonwealth:

- Maximum Occupancy allowable at an inside event for less than 2,000 people is 10%
- Maximum Occupancy allowable at an outside event for less than 2,000 people is 15%
- Telework is mandatory unless impossible
- Safety measures including cleaning, social distancing and masking is required.

How do these orders impact our worship and use of the St. Paul's building?

We have established and are practicing tight protocols for worship and building use. As a result:

1. We will continue to hold our Sunday 9:30am worship service where attendance has been averaging 50-60 attendees. This number allows for safe distancing and everyone is following masking and hand sanitizing requirements.
2. For Christmas Eve there will be an outside service where masks will be required and social distancing maintained. A special virtual Christmas Eve service will be taped and placed on the web site. At this time an indoor service is being evaluated by the Worship and Music Committee, Pastor Burkhardt and the COVID Task Force; however, there are several challenges. Watch for a final decision.
3. The building will continue to be open for the administrative, music, pastoral staff and members who need to conduct business. Our protocols requiring an appointment for entrance by our members and visitors are being followed and visitors are complying with masking and social distancing. Our staff feels comfortable working in the building under these conditions.
4. Committees, groups and Council who follow protocols for assigned rooms and use of Fellowship Hall can continue to use the building.
5. Music in Motion and the Scout troops will make their own decisions about meeting in the building.
6. In the absence of a Sexton, we continue to rely on volunteers to keep our building clean and disinfected, these generous individuals have offered to continue, for now, to provide these services. As a result we can offer worship services and keep our building open.

The greatest precautions are being taken to protect our staff and congregation. Please continue to follow our protocols on hand sanitizing, social distancing, building sanitation and disinfecting, notify the church if you experience an illness or test positive and most importantly – wear a mask. And if you feel ill or unsafe around others, please stay home and join the virtual weekly worship service found on the St. Paul's website. As long as all of our protocols are followed by everyone, we plan to continue with worship and building use. We will keep you posted if changes are needed.