

First Lutheran Church, Monmouth, IL Gathering Requirements

Approved May 27, 2020

During the Illinois Recovery Phase 3 – Groups of up to 10 will be permitted to gather with the below expectations:

- First** Consider meeting at an outdoor location (observe social distance and all protective recommendations)
- Second** Meeting in the Church – Schedule with Pastor at least two days in advance to allow time to prepare. Do not go into the office at any time.
- Entry/Exit** Everyone may only enter through the Red Backdoor or the Elevator. Sanitary wipes will be available to use upon entering the building and on the stair railing. Everyone must maintain a distance of 6 feet between people when entering and exiting the building.
- Masks** Everyone must wear a mask at all times. The cloth face cover is not a substitute for social distancing.
- Seating** Fellowship Room Tables must be at least 8 feet apart to be sure everyone can maintain a 6-foot distance. Tables will be set-up in an appropriate manner (likely a 3 table by 2 table rectangle) to seat 10 people and may not be moved.
- Chairs will be placed where people may sit and may not be moved.
- Two people may sit/work at opposite ends of each 8 ft. table if the tables are in a row.
- People from the same household may sit at the same table with no one else.
- No Refreshments** No food or drink will be served. COVID-19 can be spread through droplets in the air so talking and eating without a mask is prohibited.
- Cleaning:** Alcohol-based hand sanitizer will be available upon entrance to the Fellowship Room, and conveniently located in other areas.
- Every sink will be well-stocked with soap and hand drying materials (paper towels individually available) for hand washing.
- A trashcan lined with a disposable bag will be available near every sink to make it easy for people to discard tissues, paper towels, etc.
- One person from the group must thoroughly disinfect all areas including tables, chairs, door/elevator handles, light switches, railings, bathrooms, countertops, etc. before leaving the area. This is not the custodian's job.

Illness

Persons who are sick should stay at home. Someone who becomes ill at the meeting should go home immediately. If not able, go to the lounge and secure assistance to leave.

Final Food for thought:

The Synod recommended – “Fellowship time/coffee hours should be suspended until the risk of COVID-19 has passed.” The risk may not be over until Phase 5.

“Just because you can, doesn’t mean that you should.” Remember to protect the members of the group. Some may have additional health issues of concern. Some may not attend.