



Chapel Bells

St. Paul's U.C.C.-Erin



262-628-2319

www.StPaulsErin.org

February, 2018



WISCONSIN COUNCIL
OF CHURCHES
COURAGE. JUSTICE. HOLY IMAGINATION.

Holding Our Plans Loosely: Returning to Church 2.0

On January 14, the Wisconsin Council of Churches released "Returning to Church 2.0," a thorough revision and rewrite of our best recommendations to churches regarding when and how to resume ministry in physical place in ways that are faithful, ethical and grounded in good science. Below you'll find the Executive Summary of the 15 page guidance.

You'll find the full document , regular updates and our most current recommendations on our [Returning to Church page](#).

Executive Summary

1. We recommend prioritizing life and health of neighbor in all ministry decisions as a Gospel witness.
2. Concurrent values include creativity (holy experiments), urgency and care in meeting human needs, and attending to diversity and accessibility.
3. Norms of these recommendations include taking seriously the church's role as community leader, and trusting in the resilience of the church.
4. Churches should take a two-step approach to gathering, tracking the following data:

FIRST, watch vaccination rates. When more than 50% of the population has been vaccinated, we can expect that it will begin to have an impact on viral transmission (although "herd immunity" will not likely be fully reached until vaccination rates exceed 75%).

THEN, track COVID cases per 100,000 population and the rates of positive tests. Our safer threshold for gathering is when cases are less than 5 per 100,000 population and positive tests less than 10%. Safest would be even lower.

UNSAFE TO GATHER	MAKE IT SAFER	SAFEST
Vaccination rates <50%	Vaccination rates 50-70+%	Vaccination rates 70-85+%
Viral Transmission • Cases >10/100K • Positive Tests >10%	Viral Transmission • Cases 5-10/100K • Positive Tests <10%	Viral Transmission • Cases <1/100K • Positive Tests <5%

5. Some of the most important things churches can be doing until it is safer to gather in person is to encourage people to be vaccinated, debunk myths about vaccinations and vaccines, and encourage continued protective behaviors.

6. When you begin gathering in physical space again, plan on event modifications, mitigations and protective behaviors until COVID in the community is very low. Expect these modifications to continue for a significant amount of time, perhaps this calendar year or longer. See full text of this document for information about phased plans, mitigating especially risky behavior, and healthy decision-making.

UNSAFE	MAKE IT SAFER	SAFEST
All at once Unmasked No distancing Full capacity Assembly singing Eating together	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Face masks mandatory• Physical distancing• Low-touch environment• Outdoors or increased air exchange• Shortened time of service• Singing by worship leaders only• Focus on sanitizing high-touch surfaces• Sign-in / attendance list	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• All of the "make it safer" plus no or minimized singing• Hybrid, phased plan• Wait 1 month+ between phases• Fallback plan for outbreaks• Communication plan• Team responsibility



Please remember with your prayers, cards & calls:

- *Dan O’Keane, recovering from a throat infection
- *Diane and Ron Smith, adjusting to new caregivers
- *Jill Paddock and her family, as they grieve her mother-in-law, Lorraine's recent loss
- *LouAnn Evert, recovering from radiation treatments
- *Bill Ahles, recovering from knee replacement surgery
- *Russell Dieball, struggling with dementia and adjusting to living in a group home in West Bend
- *Jerry Lubbert, as he grieves his mother’s recent loss
- *Mary & Tom Guetzke's son, Brock, battling kidney cancer
- *Jodi Hahn & Jeff Dupras, recently engaged and planning to be married in June

Pastor Glenn’s Contact Information:

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Annual Meeting of the Congregation February 7th

The Annual Meeting of the congregation will be held immediately following worship at 10:30 am on Sunday, February 7th. All members are invited and encouraged to attend this important meeting as we vote on the 2021 budget and recommendations from the Nominating Committee. Printed and electronic copies of the Annual Report will be available January 24.



February 17 Ash Wednesday Worship Service

Join us for online worship here at St. Paul's UCC on Ash Wednesday, February 17, at 7:00 pm as we begin our Lenten journey to Easter—and invite a friend!



Farewell to Pastor Glenn

Pastor Glenn's last day at the church will be Sunday, February 28, when a special Service of Farewell will be held online at 9:30 am. Pastor Glenn is more than willing to meet with anyone personally who would like to talk and say farewell before February 28—just call (414.550.1553) or e-mail him (SPPastor@yahoo.com) to arrange a mutually convenient time.



Giving to the Church During the Pandemic

Please continue to practice good stewardship by mailing your weekly offerings and pledges to the church office at: St. Paul's UCC, attn: Financial Secretary, 495 St. Augustine Road, Colgate, WI 53017. Gifts can also be made online on our church website (<http://www.stpaulserin.org>), or by electronic transfer from your bank. Thank you for continuing to give as generously as you can!



In Need of Assistance?

We know that many families are struggling financially and/or with mental health issues due to the pandemic. If you are in need of assistance, please contact Pastor Glenn (414.550.1553) or SPPastor@yahoo.com.



Know of Someone in the Hospital?

If you know of someone in our congregation who is currently hospitalized or in need of pastoral care, please contact Pastor Glenn at SPPastor@yahoo.com or (414) 550.1553.



Fellowship Committee

Hey everyone! Let's all send Russell a Valentine!

Russell Dieball
813 Fairview Drive
West Bend, WI 53090

Thanks,
Fellowship Committee, Betty Z



Sussex Food Pantry Update

Our Serving Day on the 3rd Saturday morning of each month at the Sussex Food Pantry has been temporarily suspended due to the pandemic. Jennifer Waltz, SOS Director, will let us know when volunteers are needed again.



*Thank you to all of you who have reached out with phone calls, text messages, emails and cards showing your love for Russell. We are so thankful for our church family.
The Dieballs*



Women's Guild

Our January meeting began with a heartfelt prayer for strength, unity, and an end to the foul pandemic.

Being unable to plan previous annual events—pie day, fellowships with neighboring churches, summer Guild outing, and our soup & bread/bake sale and cookie walk fundraisers—we discussed other possibilities to support St. Paul's. Our Brat Fry at Piggly Wiggly last year was successful and a fun opportunity to work together. We plan to hold another this year—maybe two. Betty Zimpelman agreed to plan the brat fry/s again. Thanks Betty!

With fewer Guild events possible, members are volunteering to help other groups with activities they plan. The Christian Education group has come up with wonderful plans for the Mission Maniacs—military tributes, holiday food boxes, and presently the toy drive for children in treatment at Children's Hospital in honor or memory of loved ones affected by cancer. The Mission Committee also helps channel the generosity of St. Paul's members with food drives and the collection of school supplies and warm winter coats for children at Brown Street Academy. With Guild events at a pandemic low, members are volunteering to help with collections, pickups, etc. Please let us know when some extra hands would be helpful.

Our next meeting will be at noon on February 18. We hope to create festive greetings to help connect with our church family members who we so miss these days. All St. Paul's women are invited to bring a brown bag lunch and join us.



February 2021



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1	2	3	4	5	6 <i>Stephanie Danz Norma Hulterstrum</i>
7 9:30 am online worship w/ communion; 10:30 am Annual Meeting of the Congregation <i>Julia Kluever Anna Kluever</i>	8	9 <i>Jamison Duehring</i>	10	11	12	13
14 9:30 am online worship	15 6 pm Church Council mtg.	16 <i>Jacque Branchford Betty Zimpelmann</i>	17 Ash Wednesday 7 pm online worship service	18 Womens' Guild Meeting 12 Noon <i>John Edgar Danny Harvey Nolan Weber</i>	19	20
21 9:30 am online worship	22 <i>Bonnie Hanrahan Debra Weber</i>	23	24 <i>Bill & Bernie Chase's Anniversary</i>	25	26	27 <i>Wanda Dieball Jack Duehring</i>
28 9:30 am online worship and Pastor Glenn's Farewell Service						