First Christian Church 430 South 16th Street Lincoln, NE 68508 402-475-4289

Monday, November 23rd, 2020



Dear FCC Family & Friends

Sadly, we find ourselves still dealing with the COVID-19 pandemic. Here at FCC we continue to monitor the constantly changing situation to make needed adjustments. Our main concern is the health and safety of our congregation. After lengthy conversations and consultation with the Board, we have decided to continue with in-person worship. This decision was made, in part, knowing that we are making some important changes. We are excited to announce that a new audio/visual system will be installed in the sanctuary which will make it possible to record and broadcast our Sunday worship service. We expected to do the recordings in the Chapel for a few weeks, not a several months, and we are excited to be able to produce a video that more genuinely reflects worship here at FCC. Our plan is to begin this new process on the first Sunday of Advent, November 29th. We are particularly grateful to the First Christian Church Foundation for the grant that made this upgrade possible.

With all this in mind, we want to reiterate several things:

- Please choose the option that works best for you and your family. We will continue to offer our Weekly Worship Bulletin and now we'll be able to provide video worship from our Sunday service. We'll also continue offering the "Sermon by Phone."
- ♦ If you don't feel well, please stay home and take care of yourself.
- At this time we will only be holding Worship. Sunday School, Worship & Wonder, and in-person Coffee Fellowship will NOT be meeting during this time. We will continue with Virtual Coffee Fellowship on Zoom following worship. The nursery will also remain closed.

Please remember:

- We require a face covering to join in Worship.
- You will get your own bulletin and Communion from the table in the Narthex. No one will be handing them out.
- You will sit only with your family members. Different family groups will need to stay a minimum of 6 feet apart. Spaces will be marked in the Sanctuary to make this easier for everyone.
- There will be no communal singing. Music with either be instrumental or feature solo singers and instrumentalists.
- We will not be "Passing the Peace" for the time being.
- Offertory plates will be set up in the Narthex and back of the Sanctuary. Please leave your offering there. We will not be passing offertory plates during Worship.

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The church staff and leadership have developed and used a plan to make worshiping together as safe as possible.

- Only the Chapel and Sanctuary doors will be open. NO entrance through the back doors. Even if you have a key or an access code, this door is off-limits. Keep this in mind when choosing where to park.
- Only the bathroom by the Chapel will be open. The fire doors to the hallway will remain closed.
- There will be NO access to the kitchen, parlor, nursery, or second floor. Even if you have a key to these areas, they are still restricted for the health and safety of the staff.
- The Sanctuary will be sanitized by Nate, our custodian, before and after worship.
- Hallway Hospitality volunteers will be assisting in sanitation during Worship, helping everyone maintain physical distancing, and monitoring traffic flow.
- Hand sanitizer will be available for all who attend.

We want to assure you that we are doing everything we can to make worship safe for you, your families, and the staff. Of course, if you still do not feel ready for public worship, we DO plan to continue our Weekly Worship Bulletins and Weekly Worship Videos. Please make the choices that are right for you and your health care situation. We pray that this may be a time of great celebration and a feeling of God present among us. If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to call me at the church at 402-475-4289 or on my cell at 402-570-7827.

Blessings,

Pastor Karen R. Moritz