

# ALL SAINTS LUTHERAN CHURCH COVID-19 RESPONSE

## RE-OPENING OF FACILITIES & RETURN TO IN-PERSON WORSHIP

### EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

All Saints Lutheran Church (ASLC) has prepared a plan to reopen and return to in-person worship. While the plan is detailed and extensive, this Executive Summary is a brief generalization of the plan meant to help members of ASLC understand the purpose of the plan. Specific details and guidelines are not included in this summary and can be found in the full document. While the COVID-19 outbreak exposed the immediate need for this plan, it is designed to prepare ASLC for any future, similar event and is to be viewed as such.

As with any emergency situation, efforts to return to pre-event levels of service will be dependent on guidance from The Center for Disease Control (CDC), Executive Orders from the South Carolina Governor's Office, and the South Carolina Synod. Additional government, health officials and medical personnel may also provide guidance and direction.

A phased in approach to restoring services to pre-event levels will be utilized so as to help ensure that the All Saints Congregation and surrounding community is kept safe and secure during the restoration process. Caution and patience are necessary as the restoration process takes place and it is the purpose of this plan to give the ASLC leadership the flexibility to make decisions in the best interest of the All Saints Community.

There will be a 3-phase approach to restoring church services and programs to pre-event levels as much as possible. **Movement from one phase to another will be dependent on at least 14 consecutive days of declining COVID-19 cases after 45 to 60 days in the previous phase before consideration to move to the next phase in the plan.** This movement to the next phase will also be dependent on recommendations gathered from government, health officials, medical personnel and the SC Synod as well as feedback and comments from the All Saints Community. While general recommendation may allow for certain restoration levels, the All Saints leadership may prefer a more cautious approach based on feedback and local conditions.

Any decision to move forward to the next phase will be contingent on any existing Executive Order/Resolution by the Governor of the State of South Carolina and/or the Mayor of Mount Pleasant.

A critical part of restoration of services will be the sanitizing and disinfecting of ASLC facilities. The CDC ***Guidance For Cleaning and Disinfecting***, should be followed to help ensure the safety of the All Saints Community.

The All Saints Community will have adequate supplies to support healthy hygiene behaviors, including soap, hand sanitizer with at least 60 percent alcohol (for those who can safely use hand sanitizer), tissues, and no-touch trash cans.

Wearing of face mask will be required at any and all gatherings/meetings while inside the building. Face mask should not be placed on children younger than 2 years old, anyone who has trouble breathing or is unconscious, and anyone who is incapacitated or otherwise unable to remove the cloth face covering without assistance. When outside, if social distancing of 6 feet or more is adhered to, wearing a face mask is still advisable, though not required. Any social distancing of less than 6 feet will require the wearing of face mask.

A vital part of the All Saints Community are the groups that utilize the Church facilities and space. Such request from these groups may be granted by Council as deemed necessary, as long as the groups are given clear guidelines for meeting and submit their request along with their safety plan in writing to be approved by a pastor, the Administrator, chair of Safety & Security and a member of the Executive Committee.

All ASLC guidelines are to be followed as well in order to allow these groups to have either indoor or outdoor gatherings on Church property while utilizing the restrooms in the Parish Life Center (PLC)