

ASLC PLAN TO REOPEN FOR WORSHIP  
May 27, 2020

Dear ASLC family,

We are currently in Phase 2 of the the NC Governor's plan to combat the COVID Virus. Bishop Tim Smith and the NC Synod Taskforce for Re-Gathering issued the following recommendation:

"Standing in solidarity with recommendations of our NC Ecumenical partners in the Episcopal, United Methodist, AME Zion, and other traditions, to refrain from in-person gatherings of more than 10 people until the NC Governor moves us into Phase 3."

Our church is going to follow their advice, but we will also be preparing the building so that when our state moves into Phase 3 we will be ready to open for in-person worship.

Here is our plan to keep you and the other members of ASLC safe:

- The chairs will be arranged in small family groups throughout the sanctuary in a way that maintains a social distance of six feet. These chairs will be sanitized mid-week between our 11:00 Sunday worship services.
- We are asking those who attend to wear face masks unless they are under the age of 2 or have trouble breathing (CDC guidelines). Laurie Blayney has offered to make us a supply of masks so we have some on hand if you forget to wear one!
- We also ask you to practice good hand hygiene. There will be hand sanitizer in the gathering space and soap at all the sinks in the building.
- We will continue to offer online worship on Pastor Dave's YouTube channel for those who are not yet comfortable worshipping in person. We will also offer an opportunity for Communion and Fellowship on Sunday afternoons, 2:00pm, on Zoom.

Here is what to expect when we resume in-person worship:

- The offering plate will be in the gathering space as you enter the doors of the church.
- Your bulletin will be on your seat.
- We will open the windows while running the air conditioner to ensure better airflow so dress accordingly.

- There will be no group singing, following National Association of Teachers of Singing (NATS) and the American Choral Directors Association (ACDA) guidelines. Instead, Anne will play hymns while we meditate on the words which will be printed in your bulletin. We will use pre-recorded music as well.
- Pastor Dave has written a creative way to pass the peace while remaining seated.
- Communion cups will be placed on the altar, along with bread in a small cup. No one will kneel and there will be marks on the altar rail to indicate proper social distancing.
- There will be no food or drink offered and fellowship after worship must occur outside of the building while maintaining proper social distancing.

While this does not cover everything, it gives you an idea of what we have in mind. Because the guidelines for dealing with this virus change so quickly, we will continue to update this plan as needed. We welcome your suggestions regarding how we can improve it.

We value the health and safety of all our members. We wish we could "go back to the way things were" but this will be our new normal until it is safe to do otherwise. We understand there are many changes occurring in our lives, but one thing will never change is this...God made each and everyone of you and loves you all dearly, as do we. Looking forward to reuniting our church family soon!

See you in church and/or online,

Pastor Dave & your Church Council

P.S. In order to better prepare the worship space, we'd like to get an idea of which families plan on attending in-person worship when our state moves into Phase 3. It will help us to set up the space so that family groups can sit together. We also wonder if making "reservations" would be helpful so we make sure the space is ready for you. Let us know what you think.