

## **MORE INFORMATION FROM SPRC AS WE LOOK AHEAD--**

As we continue to progress through the coronavirus crisis, this church is looking at the safest way to continue the work of our church. How do we best continue with our worship services, Sunday school, study groups and gatherings? We are cautious and know this is a gradual process back to a safe worship. It is hard to minimize our interactions with other people in this church. The prospect of mass gatherings with people sitting next to each other is not good right away. A lot of our social norms have to be broken in order to make sure everyone is safe.

We want to initiate a conversation with you about the coronavirus by creating an open line of communication. We want to use evidence-based decision-making and keep the church members and staff safe. We want to make sure we have enough knowledge about the spread of the disease. We know that any conversation about people gathering for any purpose is currently filled with so much uncertainty.

When it is deemed appropriate to return to worshipping together within our church building, we will probably need to be looking at multiple options, at least for the foreseeable future. This could mean multiple services (50 people or less at each), using different locations in the church for those services—sanctuary, parlor, Fellowship Hall, etc...at different times of the day/week in order to sanitize facilities and comply with continued social distancing. Hymnals will probably not be allowed, so we will need to print the hymn words in the bulletin for each service. Parts of the church may need to be closed off, to be able to keep up with sanitation needs where people are meeting.

### **WHAT WE ARE LOOKING AT:**

Being aware that the major mode of transmission for the coronavirus is through respiratory secretions (droplets). When a person coughs those secretions can be on some surfaces or in the air for up to 3 days.

Being aware of surfaces where the virus could last for days/hours: on hard surfaces like plastics and stainless steel.

**Having enough time between services or gatherings to clean and disinfect surfaces at church.** Some of this done on a daily basis, on high-touch surfaces frequently throughout the day. High-touch surfaces include phones, remote controls, counters, tabletops, doorknobs, bathroom fixtures, toilets, keyboards, tablets and bedside tables. Follow CDC guidance.

**Everyone, while at church, wears a cloth face cover. We will help those who do not have face coverings/cloth masks, to receive one.**

**Practicing social distancing. Distance, distance, distance...**

Keep at least 6 feet — about two arm lengths — away from others. It is important to maintain some of the current health safety practices currently in place, even when we begin to return to more normal life routines and practices.

**Not shaking hands with each other**

**Washing and/or disinfecting our hands.** Make sure you wash your hands with soap and water as frequently as possible. The best way to kill germs is by scrubbing your hands with soap and water for 20 seconds. Do this frequently before, during, and after you visit any public place or have contact with people.

When soap isn't available, use a hand sanitizer. Rub the sanitizer around your hands until it's dry.

**Be aware of our own health status** in order to keep our church and our community safe from the highly contagious coronavirus.

**Remember to stay home** as much as possible and limit your contact with people.

**We need to keep our church staff safe and limit their chance of contracting the coronavirus.**

**We have created a church calling list to maintain as much connection as possible.**

A number of church members have stepped forward as volunteers to reach out through a phone call every once in awhile to people in our congregation. If you have not been contacted recently, please let Bonnie Goertz know that you would like someone to reach out with a friendly call now and then. (Phone #: 715-359-9871)

**If you are looking for help with grocery shopping, picking up prescriptions,** transportation to doctor or other appointments, etc...please call your contact person or the church office (715) 842-2201 during regular hours, 9-2, Monday through Friday. At other reasonable hours call Stan Schacht 715 842-7957.

#### **HELPER-DRIVERS**

From time to time, some of us may be homebound: especially older folks, persons who are disabled, ill or injured; they may need assistance and/or transportation to appointments, or someone to pickup prescriptions, groceries, etc...

Some church members have volunteered to be "Helper-Drivers." If you would like to be part of our team, and offer support to members with real needs, call Joan at the church office or Stan at (715) 842-7957 and your name will be added to the list. Ideally, we would have one or two volunteers in each quarter of the Wausau/Everest Area.

#### **Recipe for Making Your Own Hand Sanitizer:**

2/3 cup 91% isopropyl alcohol (rubbing alcohol)

1/3 cup aloe vera gel

Mixing bowl

Spoon or something for whisking

Small container, such as a 3-oz. travel bottle

Optional: essential oil to give your hand sanitizer a fragrance

#### **SPRC Members: We are here for you, so feel free to contact any of us!**

Bonnie Goertz

Dottie Nietert

Jane Dovenbarger

Tim Harvey

Gary Getzin

Stan Schacht

Jack Zei