

September 29, 2021

St. Mark Family and Friends,

Our covid team met this week to talk about updated covid cases and how we at St. Mark can adapt to new information as we continue to navigate our way.

This letter will inform you of the changes made and how we will be addressing upcoming events.

### **Masks**

- Masks will continue to be worn inside the building for worship services and meetings.

### **Sunday morning sign-in**

- We will continue to ask households to sign in on Sunday morning so we can keep a record on hand for tracking purposes.

### **Singing in worship**

- Congregational singing is happily welcomed back into our Sunday morning worship service (with masks on).

### **Communion**

- We believe that receiving communion is an important piece of worship on Sundays.
- For those who are comfortable, we will now usher people forward to receive communion (the pre-packaged wafer/juice) from our communion servers.
- You will then take the cup back to your seat and eat/drink and dispose of your cup in the baskets provided.
- For those that feel more comfortable to remain in their seats- communion cups will still be offered before worship begins.

### **Fellowship**

- We want to offer fellowship time for those that choose to stay and socialize. Fellowship hour will continue to take place after 9:30 worship on Sunday mornings- now in fellowship hall.
- As long as weather permits, we will now offer some tables and chairs outside for those that wish to take their coffee/snacks outside.
- The following upcoming bigger fellowship hour events will still take place inside, (outside seating available as well if weather permits). All servers of food will be required to wear masks and gloves.
  - New member Sunday - October 10th- cake and coffee offered

- Tastes of Tanzania- October 17th- samples of Tanzanian food

### **Choir**

- The choir will start rehearsals and begin singing in worship per the leadership of Choir Director, Donna Peterson.
- All choir members will be asked to sing with mask/shield on. This is the same expectation we hold for the congregation when they sing.

### **Holiday Bazaar**

- The holiday bazaar is to remain on the calendar for Saturday November 13th for now.
- The mask policy for the church at that time will be the same for all vendors/visitors of the bazaar that day as well.
- Choir chili, desserts, and bake sale items can still be sold, but in to-go containers. No eating of food will be permitted at the bazaar.
- Please watch for more updates as we draw closer to the Bazaar date.

Thank you for your patience and understanding! It is greatly appreciated!

\* PLEASE BE AWARE\*

As exciting as it is to be moving forward with these baby steps we must be mindful that there are no guarantees that we won't have to consider moving back to a previous phase.

No one WANTS that... but we ask for your continued patience, understanding and grace.

If you have any questions, please reach out to the covid team by emailing:  
[covidteam@stmarkcp.org](mailto:covidteam@stmarkcp.org)

Peace,  
Covid Response Team & Council