



Ascension Ev. Lutheran Church

521 West 23rd Avenue
Mitchell, SD. 57301

Pastor David D. Reichel

dreichel@mitchelltelecom.net 605-996-9123



October 9, 2020

Dear Member of Ascension,

As you may know, we returned to a “Parking Lot Church Only” format last Sunday, due to the sudden, rapid increase in COVID-19 cases in Davison County. The decision to do so was made late on Saturday evening, after much discussion with health advisors and our congregation president, Tony Bicek. It was done with the health and welfare of all of us uppermost in our minds. That continues to be a major factor in our ongoing, weekly assessment of the numbers, and the determination of how to hold our worship services in the safest, least-infectious way possible.

As I mentioned in the announcements before and after the worship service last Sunday, I am writing to you today to inform you that we will return – cautiously and carefully – to in-person, indoor worship this Sunday, October 11, with Sunday School and Morning Bible Study Hour also being held. However, I would ask each of us to continue to strive to do all we can to minimize the spread of any infections or viruses that may be out there! Again, we continue to have containers of hand sanitizer at various places in the building for you to use as often as necessary: please feel free to make use of them! We also have sanitizer hand wipes that you may use, especially if you feel the need to wipe down the pew in front or behind you, the hymnals or Bible in front of or beside you, or anything else that might be of concern to you, including also your own hands and possessions. We also continue to have pre-packaged face masks available for you to use, if you don’t have one of your own, to put on when you are in church, to help protect you and those around you while we are together indoors. Especially with the sudden increase in COVID-19 cases in Davison County, I would especially encourage you to bring and/or wear one while you are in church.

If you don’t feel well and still want to come *for* church but not come *into* church, we do continue to offer the “parking lot church” option every Sunday morning, as we have been doing ever since Easter Sunday, April 12. You are welcome to take advantage of that option any time you feel the need to do so, as we will always have a hymnal and bulletin available for you to use in your car.

Again, we are taking these precautions out of a love for and deep concern for the health and welfare of each of our members of and visitors to Ascension. The COVID-19 virus is real and it can be/is seriously dangerous to a person’s health. Out of concern and love for one another, we want to do all we can to help protect each other and prevent (as much as possible) anyone from catching this disease.

Yours in Christ,

Pastor David D. Reichel
Ascension Ev. Lutheran Church, Mitchell, South Dakota