

Dear Thomas Church Family,

Session has decided that we are ready to worship together again! Our first Sunday together since the start of the pandemic will be July 5<sup>th</sup>. The committee for making the plans for resuming in-person Sunday morning worship referred to the Pennsylvania Department of Health, the CDC, plans of neighboring churches, the Washington Presbytery and Biblical inspiration for guidance in developing their plan. For the initial opening it has been decided that the CLC provides the safest environment for our congregation. There are changes in the structure of the service and extra safety standards that will be required of those attending.

**We are hoping that all will joyfully accept these changes and welcome the opportunity to take the extra steps of precaution needed to ensure the safety of our Thomas Church family.**

The following is a list of those changes and standards:

- Facemasks will be required by all those attending. It is asked that you bring your own. If you forget, one will be provided for you.
- There will be a hand sanitizing station at the entrance.
- We ask that if you do not feel well or have been in contact with anyone suffering from covid-19 that you do not attend Sunday worship.
- There will be no childcare provided.
- We are asking that there be no gathering of people in the CLC.
- We will be using the first door in the parking lot side of the CLC to enter. The lobby doors will not be used for entering or exiting the building.
- For the purpose of covid-19 tracking, should that be necessary, all those attending will be checked in with name and phone number. If you are not on our list we will ask you to provide your name and contact information. In addition a photo will be taken of the congregation once everyone is seated.
- Temperatures will be taken with a forehead thermometer by a volunteer greeter.
- Communion elements are pre-packaged and will be on a table at the entrance. We ask, on communion Sundays, that you pick up your communion elements on your way in.
- We are asking that you come early to facilitate the check-in process.
- Anyone needing to exit the building, while others are still entering, will be asked to use the other parking lot door.
- An usher will help you find a seat and reposition chairs if necessary.
- Verbal instructions for exiting will be given at the end of the service.
- We will not have bulletins or hymnals.

We will not be singing or participating in responsive readings.

Please bring your own Bible.

We are all looking forward to the time when we will be worshipping in the sanctuary and singing the praises of our Lord, and that time will come. For now, let us rejoice, be grateful and be glad that we can all participate in promoting the safety and well-being of our church family.

In Christ's Love,

Peggy Flynn

Committee to Re-open

The Thomas Church Session

***“So if there is any encouragement in Christ, any comfort from love, any participation in the Spirit, any affection and sympathy, complete my joy by being of the same mind, having the same love, being in full accord and of one mind.”***

***Philippians 2:1-2***