

Updated First Church On-Site Guidelines

These guidelines have been established for the safety and wellbeing of our community. It is recommended that these guidelines be followed for First Church gatherings off-site as well. While you may not agree with all of the guidelines, we would ask for your consideration and to please observe them for the sake of others.

A. In General:

- † If you feel sick in any manner, please stay home for the safety of others.
- † If you are over 65 and/or have an underlying medical condition, the CDC stresses that it is extra important for you to stay home.
- † Maintain 6' personal distancing between you and nonfamily members. This would apply to inside and outside the church building as well as seating in the pews.
- † We ask that you wear a mask/facial covering (over age 2); this is not only to prevent transmission **from** others but **to** others as well. If you do not have one, there will be some available at the church for you to keep and reuse; these were made and donated by the First Church "Maskateers".
- † The balcony will only be open for overflow seating at this time; anyone seated in the balcony is required to wear a mask.
- † Hand sanitizer will be available at each door and at various locations inside the church.

B. In Person Worship Services:

- † Two services will be held weekly; a contemporary service on Saturday at 5pm and a blended service on Sunday at 10am. This will allow for ample time for cleaning and disinfecting between services.
- † For anyone who chooses not to attend in person, services will be available via livestream at:
 - www.watertownfirst.church/watch (Church Website)
 - www.facebook.com/watertownfirstumc (Church Facebook Page)
- † The Welcome Center will be closed so beverage and goodies will not be available.
- † Greeters will open the church doors or the doors will remain open to minimize the number of hands touching the door handles. Both the East and West church doors will be accessible.
- † Before and after services, please feel free to visit with others outside in the fresh air. Please continue to maintain distancing and keep the walkways open.
- † The restroom in the back of the sanctuary will be open; all other restrooms will be inaccessible.
- † Offerings can be placed in the offering plates at the back of the church as you enter or exit the sanctuary.

- † Worship service bulletins will not be provided at this time.
- † Communion will not be offered at this time.
- † The nursery and cry room will not be open.

C. Children:

- † There will be no First Kids School at this time.
- † Kids worship bulletins will not be provided at this time.
- † Activity Bags will not be available at this time.

D. Small Groups:

- † All guidelines listed in Section A should be followed.
- † Groups must be scheduled by calling the church office at 605-886-4427 or emailing the Church Office at: office@watertownfirst.church.
- † The church lounge will be available for groups of 8 or fewer people.
 - The Restroom near the offices is the only restroom accessible when the lounge is used.
- † The Fellowship Hall will be available for groups greater than 8 but fewer than 50 people.
 - The Restrooms in the basement are the only restrooms accessible when the Fellowship Hall is used.
- † All kitchen areas will be closed at this time.
- † No food is allowed and no beverages are to be shared; individuals may bring in their own beverage.

E. Church Building:

- † The church will be open for scheduled small group gatherings and appointments only.
- † At non-scheduled times, the church will remain closed during the week.
- † Our office manager will be in the office to answer phone calls and pastors are available in case of a pastoral emergency.
- † Appointments can be scheduled by calling the church office at 605-886-4427 or emailing the Church Office at: office@watertownfirst.church.