

Venice Presbyterian Church

June 10, 2020

Dear Church Family,

“And let us not neglect our meeting together, as some people do, but encourage one another, especially now that the day of his return is drawing near.” Hebrews 10:25

We, the Session of Venice Church, are working diligently to once again meet together and worship as one! While we are all eager to do this, we want to maintain a safe environment for our most precious family. While we have the “go ahead” from our government to reopen, we have chosen to take it slowly and cautiously so that we can do what is right for our congregation.

We will begin to re-enter the church in phases that will be determined along the way to some extent. The first phase will include our main Sunday morning worship in the sanctuary. This limited re-entry will happen on June 21st, 2020. Future phases will include: Return to 2 service worship, in-person committee meetings, children’s ministries, Sunday school, Bible studies, choir rehearsal, and all other ministries that happened in the past at Venice. Please be patient with us as we try to determine what is best for our congregation.

While we will begin this process, we greatly encourage our most Senior members, those members with immune-compromised systems, those with very young children, and all who are not ready to congregate to continue to worship at home. Live streaming of our worship will be an on-going part of Venice Church’s ministry.

We ask that anyone who is feeling physically ill for any reason to remain at home and worship via internet.

We will continue with our 10:00 AM service for the present. This service will be in person AND digital on Facebook Live. We will begin with one service only and this will be open to the first 50 people. The Session will be revisiting this decision after the first 2 weeks to see if additional options should be made available.

The church will be thoroughly cleaned prior to the opening and after each use. If you are interested in being on the cleaning team, please contact Lisa Hradil 412-526-8527 or the church office.

For the initial phase, attendees will have to register in advance. This will be done either online by going to <https://forms.gle/q55ykC86SUK9yapy8> and filling out the online form or by calling the church office. **No walk-ins will be permitted.** Please register everyone who will be attending including children. This helps us to maintain the proper guidelines and to have a contact list should anyone become ill after attending the service.

When you register you will be agreeing to the following expectations:

- All attendees MUST wear a mask upon entering and during the entire service. Masks will be available for those who do not have a mask.
- Only the main sanctuary doors will be open. This door will be open at 9:55am and the doors will be open until shortly after 10:00am.
- Prior to entering the church attendees are asked to maintain a 6' distance between non-family members. Yellow lines marking the 6' distance will be on the sidewalks.
- There will be NO physical contact (shaking hands, hugging, etc.) between non-family members.
- Upon entering all must use hand sanitizer. A dispenser will be provided at the entrance.
- Attendees must follow the traffic patterns as set up inside the church
- At this time only the sanctuary and the upper west wing level bathroom will be available.
- The nursery, Fellowship Hall, and Sunday school classrooms will remain off limits.
- One family will be permitted in the "cry room" at the back of the sanctuary. If you need this room you MUST request this at the time of registration.
- There will be no Bibles/ Hymnals/ envelopes/ pens in the pews. All toys will be removed from the cry room.
- There will be no typical offering collected. We will have a box at the back of the sanctuary to place your offering in. You may still give online, mail your offering in, or have it deducted from your bank account.
- If you use the restroom, we kindly ask that you clean any surfaces you may have touched before leaving the room. Paper seat covers will be available in the restroom. Wipes and gloves will be present in the restroom.

Remember that when you are registering you are agreeing to the above expectations.

We thank you for your continued support during these most trying, unprecedented times.

In Christ's Love,

Your Venice Church Session Members:

Aaron Ostrowski
 Deb Batey
 Gary Phillips
 Justin McKean
 Kate Hillbery
 Kathy Heidler
 Lisa Hradil
 Ray Szymanski

3694 Millers Run Road
 McDonald, PA 15057

www.venice-church.org

(724) 745-8362