

St Stephen Covid Response Team Minutes September 24, 2020

Attendees: Pastor Jim Woodruff, Pastor Juli Thompson, Jill Sandvik, Karen Smith, Tom and Cindy Scott, Randy Amborn, Chris Sheldon, Melissa Whitman.

Opening Prayer

Approval of last meeting's minutes

Review of MDH chart

Funeral Policy

- **ACTION:** Write handout re: COVID policies for families of deceased. (Juli and Jim)
- **Motion:** Moved by Melissa with second by Randy to accept document as edited. **Approved.**

Large Public Gatherings

- See guidelines in meeting folder.
- Discussion re: policies for Large Outdoor Gatherings (up to 250 participants) using guidelines based on MN Dept. of Health for Outdoor Gatherings.
- **Motion:** Moved by Cindy and seconded by Randy to **table** this vote until group has had ample opportunity to review guidelines. **Approved.**

Indoor Sunday Worship

- Proposal to begin Indoor Sunday Worship on Reformation Sunday (October 25.).
- Proposal supported by Worship and Music Committee and Staff.
- Use Sanctuary.
- Require pre-registration on weekly basis starting previous Monday and closing on Friday. Fully equipped to handle pre-registration on St. Stephen website.
- Limit to 75 participants plus staff.
- Suggested parameter of 40 minutes.
- **ACTION:** Chris to research website/app options for on-line registration.
- **Motion:** Melissa moved and Karen seconded that we begin Sunday service on October 25, Reformation Sunday, with understanding that this only happens if metrics are in good shape. **Approved.**

Masks for Outdoor Worship

- Chris discussed complaints by outdoor worship attendees re: requirement to wear masks.
- Tom stated that those wearing masks are helping others.
- Randy reminds us that we must comply with any applicable state, county and city mandates.
- Chris proposes that we no longer require mandatory masks for outdoor worship.
- **Motion:** Chris moved and Melissa seconded that masks St. Stephen policy should state that masks are strongly recommended with six feet social distancing. **Not approved.**

Edits to Musician Policy

- See document in Current folder.
- **Motion:** Jim moved Randy seconded to accept changes to musician policy re: distance between musicians. **Approved.**

Use Governor's Mandate for Church Guidelines

- If there is a spike in COVID cases there will be an automatic response from the Governor.
- Per Cindy, we then miss looking at our county specifically.
- Randy suggests using any White Bear Lake mandate.
- **Motion:** Karen moved and Melissa seconded that if the 14- day moving average gets to 25 cases per 10,000 people the team will meet to determine how we should respond. **Approved.**

Upcoming Meetings

- Need to meet in two weeks to discuss Large Group Policy.
- Subsequently, we will meet on ad hoc basis.

November 3 Voting Procedures

- Ramsey County Election Committee will sanitize space.
- St. Stephen will sanitize again the next day.

Updates to chart from Weekly Update

- Small Groups are adding Bible Study.
- Removing Scouts from chart.

Closed with Lord's Prayer