



GRACE EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

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*Our Mission: To Glorify God, To Grow in Faith, To Give in Service,
Together in Christ*

June 22, 2020

Dear Grace Family,

We are writing to report our plans to return to in-person worship at Grace, beginning Sunday, July 5th, on the regular summer worship schedule at 9:15 am.

We say "regular" summer worship schedule, and it's true that we'll gather at 9:15 am, but these are not regular times! Much about how we will be able to be together, and even how many of you have expressed that you would feel most safe returning, will not match our usual pattern. We'll worship outside, weather permitting, but move inside, if the weather does not cooperate. Masks and social/physical distancing between household units will be in place. We'll need to limit singing and responsive readings. We won't begin with communion in person, or coffee fellowship, at least for July, as we haven't figured out how to offer those safely. For outside worship, please bring your own chairs, as you're able. But if that's too hard for you, we'll have a few folding chairs. We'll continue to video-record the worship services we now do, so those who cannot come, or do not feel safe doing so, will not be excluded from worship. We expect to post Sunday services each week at noon on the following Wednesday.

But we will gather as God's people to praise God together in person, to gather strength from each other's presence, and to rejoice in our life together as a community.

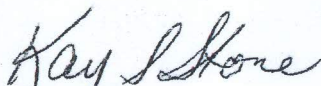
We've agreed to try these things for July, to observe and to modify, as need be.

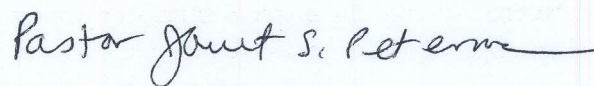
We thank those who filled out the worship survey to help us make this decision, as well as our Worship & Music Team and Council, who have helped us consider the many issues before us. We understand the health risks that remain in this time of Covid, and also the longing that many feel to return to the sanctuary of Grace for worship in person.

See the list of details about our time together included with this letter. You can view a completed survey, as well as the W & M and Council recommendations at the Member section of Grace's website. It's password protected. If you need the password, contact a Council member.

May God strengthen us for the work placed in our hands!

Blessings to your house from ours!


Kay Stone
Chair, Worship & Music


The Rev. Janet S. Peterman
Interim Pastor

