



BETHESDA EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

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“Loving God, Loving People”

February 10, 2021

Dear Bethesda Congregation:

We are very happy to announce that Bethesda will be reopening for **virtual worship** in partnership Pastor Jim Arter from First Lutheran of Leechburg beginning Sunday, February 21, 2021. Service will begin at 9:30 am. Although we are beginning in person worship, there will be a change in the communion schedule. The next time communion will be offered is March 7. Once we have the new schedule resolved, we will communicate the information to you.

We will also offer an Ash Wednesday service at 12:00 Noon, February 17th. The service will be led by Carrie Banks and myself. A pre-recorded sermon from Pastor Arter and the imposition of ashes will be included in the service. The following procedure will be followed when distributing ashes:

- Person distributing ashes will wear a face mask and gloves
- Person receiving ashes will be required to wear a mask
- Ashes will be placed on the forehead using a cotton swab

As a reminder to those attending the Ash Wednesday service or Sunday services, below is a reminder to the congregants:

1. Masks are required, and you must bring your own. The church will not provide masks.
2. Before congregants enter the church, temperatures will be taken. Anyone with a temperature higher than 100 will not be permitted to enter the church.
3. Attendance will be taken at all services.
4. You may bring your own hand sanitizer; however, hand sanitizer will be available in all pews.
5. Congregants are expected to practice good personal hygiene and to remain at home if ill.
6. Congregant must notify the church office if diagnosed with the Coronavirus. In turn, the office will send out an email and letter advising that a diagnosis has been made in the congregation. Your name or diagnosis will not be shared publicly.
7. Those individuals that may have been in direct contact with the diagnosed individual will be expected to self-quarantine for the required 14 days.
8. Congregants will leave hymnals, bibles, and sanitizer on the pew seat when leaving worship to be sanitized and replaced in the pew rack.
9. Congregants will be dismissed by row at the end of the service. This will ensure the continued practice of social distancing.
10. Congregants will take any printed material distributed for the worship service with them. It is not to be left in the pew or placed in the trash can.

If you are uncomfortable attending worship inside the Sanctuary, and wish to remain in your car, you can tune your car radio to 89.1 FM.

It has been a long time since we have all been together in worship and we are looking forward to seeing you.

If you have any concerns or questions, please reach out to a Council member or call me directly at 724-212-1150 or email me at rseben2001@yahoo.com.

Yours in Christ,

Rita Seben

Rita Seben
President, Church Council