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| Brothers and sisters in Christ,   You may have seen Governor Northam's announcement this week that the first phase of Virginia's reopening will likely occur this Friday, May 15, 2020 and will include the possibility of places of worship reopening at 50% capacity.   After review and discussion by Council, and in following the recommendation of the Synod office, please note that **Christ Lutheran's facilities will remain closed throughout the entirety of Virginia's first phase of reopening.** Be assured, however, that the life and engagement of Christ Lutheran remains very strong, and in fact, participation and connection has increased among several platforms. Additionally, Christ Lutheran's giving has remained steady and strong and the church submitted it's final mortgage payment in April - praise God!   As as we continue to navigate our way through this global pandemic, our first concern is for the safety of CLC's members and the well-being of our local community. We have a responsibility to remain diligent in doing our part to slow the spread of the coronavirus within our neighborhood, and for now, that includes the continuation of physical distancing.    We encourage all church ministries and committees to continue to meet virtually via the church's Zoom account (contact to [Kayley Greenday](mailto:greenday@vt.edu) or [Pastor Ralph](https://christlutheran.us20.list-manage.com/track/click?u=35b8fc443e66668ef8b0f13ad&id=11aea8bd07&e=6e420f29d3) for more information about using this resource) and to continue actively participating in CLC's online worship services and mid-week devotionals, found on the church's [Facebook page](https://christlutheran.us20.list-manage.com/track/click?u=35b8fc443e66668ef8b0f13ad&id=0a9288d460&e=6e420f29d3) and [YouTube channel](https://christlutheran.us20.list-manage.com/track/click?u=35b8fc443e66668ef8b0f13ad&id=0187f93220&e=6e420f29d3). We feel encouraged and blessed by your commitment and determination to continue performing the work of the church, and look forward to a time where we can safely meet to worship together once more!   Blessings,  https://gallery.mailchimp.com/35b8fc443e66668ef8b0f13ad/images/c412959f-c1cc-456a-b3c4-d4386067769d.jpg Kayley Greenday Council President |