

## *Parish of Copper Cliff and Lively*

c/o Anglican Rectory  
230 Sixth Avenue  
Lively, Ontario, P3Y 1M4

Greetings to the members of the Parish of Copper Cliff and Lively:

I am writing with the hopes of assisting us all to re-enter our building in a safe and worship-filled way. When this was first being discussed both congregations were scheduled to re-open on the same day but we have run into a little snag in that regard so the amended plan is to have the congregation at St. John's return at 11 am on Sunday September 6 and the congregation at Christ Church return at 9 am on Sunday September 20. The primary reason for the different dates is that there is currently no electricity at Christ Church and power won't be restored until sometime after September 9<sup>th</sup> when the electrical contractor we have hired begins his work. As you all know we have been unable to use our building since March and we have been relying on alternative methods of worship. Each week about 20 letters are sent by Canada Post containing material to aid in home worship. This same material, with the addition of an audio recording of the sermon, is posted each week on our web-site so that those with computer access may use the provided materials. In addition to this I have continued to send electronic messages to about 70 households to help the process of staying in touch. It is now time, God willing, to prepare to return to worshipping together inside our buildings.

### How we planned

Plans have been discussed and adjusted as the Pandemic wears on and we believe that the protocols suggested will allow us to worship our Saviour in an appropriate way while reducing the risk of transmitting or receiving an infection of the Covid-19 virus. Much research was performed in preparation of this plan including consultations with: Public Health Officials and Medical Experts, The Provincial House of Bishops, Executives from each Diocese in Ontario, and resources created by the Evangelical Lutheran Church. These proposals were further discussed and adjusted by the Archbishop's Council of the Diocese of Algoma with advice received from Wardens and Treasurers from across the Diocese. We believe we have prepared a comprehensive response but, given the diversity of the Diocese, are aware that local adjustments will have to be made.

### Some details of the plan

What you can expect to experience should you decide to attend will be the following differences. First a hand sanitizing station will be placed just inside the main door in each congregation along with some face masks in case you haven't brought your own. We ask that all who attend use the sanitizing solution as well as don a face mask before continuing to enter. Another difference from past practice will involve the offering. A collection box will be placed inside the entrance and we ask that any offering you are bringing be placed in that box before you enter the Nave or when you go forward for communion. For the first few weeks at least a service sheet containing all the liturgical information you will need for the gathering will be produced. Copies will be left in the pews in order to avoid unnecessary human contact. Greeters will be present to help with directing traffic and answering questions but will not be handing out bulletins or shaking hands. When it comes times to receive communion participants are asked to line up in the centre aisle with sufficient distance between themselves and the person in front of them. If the aisle is full please remain seated. Consecrated bread will be handed to each person at the chancel steps and they are asked to move to the side of the building

where they were seated before removing their mask and consuming the bread. (The presiding clergy will consume wine on behalf of everyone.) Returning to your seat should be done by avoiding as much contact as possible. When the liturgy is concluded people are asked to make their way out of the building without unnecessary contact with fellow members. If conversations are to take place please wait until you are outside and continue to observe physical distancing rules.

#### Service times and a request for help cleaning

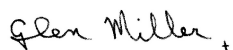
The Sunday service times will remain the same as they were before the Pandemic restrictions were implemented: 9 am at Christ Church, 11 am at St. John's. The mid-week Communion service is still suspended and the various group activities will resume in accordance with the desire of the members of each group as long as protocols can be maintained. If you are able and willing to help with cleaning on September 4<sup>th</sup> or 5<sup>th</sup> please contact David Stamp (Copper Cliff) or Karen Makela (Lively) so that a schedule for cleaning can be established. (See contact information below)

#### Closing comments

These changes will take some time to become familiar to us and I ask for your patience and cooperation. If you feel that you still cannot attend please let us know and some form of contact will be maintained either electronically or through Canada Post. If you have questions, concerns, or suggestions please don't hesitate to contact me through the contact information provided below. We wish to worship God as a gathered community in as safe a way as possible and in compliance with the best advice we can obtain. As the threat of transmission lessens some of the protocols may change but for now they will remain in place.

Thank you all for the way in which the radical change in our lives brought about by the arrival of the Covid-19 virus has been received. I have been told of some marvelous examples of gracious contact and imaginative gestures of love which declare the truth of the statement that the Church is a people not a building. I pray that the days and weeks to come will continue to see God's people living out the calling to be people of God's kingdom.

On behalf of the Wardens and Advisory Boards,



Glen +

#### The Coordinators for re-opening are:

David & Joanne Stamp, Wardens at St. John's in Copper Cliff  
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