

Church Service Accommodations for the Corona Virus; March 15, 2020

While the Church Council and congregations are considering a possible suspension of services for the next several weeks, here are some accommodations that are suggested by other churches and our church leaders nationally and at the Synod.

- Practice social distancing, spreading out within the available worship space, and avoiding sustained close contact.
- Do not share the peace by handshakes or other person-to-person contact.
- Use only individual cups for Communion, or suspend Communion for the Lenten season as a precaution and as a sign of fasting.
- Provide and use hand sanitizers for ushers and altar help.
- Allow parishioners to pick up bulletins and fliers individually from a stack, do not hand out person-to-person.
- Suspend coffee and fellowship gatherings, and small group gatherings or Bible studies. A phone conference call could be set up by small groups.
- Offering plates will not be passed during service, but placed at exit for dropping donations after service.
- Encourage anyone who is not feeling well or is anxious about exposure to the virus to stay at home. There are many streaming church services (Peace Lutheran of Pigeon Falls streams all of their services) and broadcasts that are available for at-home worship.
- Church Council and area pastors will actively consider next steps in responding to the Corona Virus pandemic as changes develop.

Peace, from Pastor Dave and the leadership of King's Valley, South Beef River, and Upper Pigeon Creek Lutheran Churches to all of our brothers and sisters in Christ.