

# Trinity Grand Ledger

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## Trinity Episcopal church Initial Phase II plan for Re-Entry

We have been given permission to return to worshipping within our church building once we have a plan that addresses the safety of our parishioners. Many of our congregation are individuals with a high risk of contracting the Covid 19 Virus. For that reason, the Vestry and I have determined that we will delay in person worship until we have been able to complete a number of activities associated with recommendations for re-entry. We will continue to monitor community infection rates, and follow the guidance of our diocese and the health organizations, like the CDC and our county health departments, as well as state guidelines or mandates.

### Preparing the church:

1. Commercial deep cleaning of the worship, office, and meeting spaces and the kitchen and restrooms.
2. Removal of non-essential items from rooms
  - a. Hymnals and prayer books have been removed from the nave and placed in a movable book case in the narthex.
3. Signs must be made and posted to remind parishioners to maintain at least six feet of separation, mandatory face mask wearing at all times, and to stay home if exposed to someone with Covid 19, if you test positive for the virus or do not feel well and seek medical attention, if you are in a high risk group stay home .
4. Letters, newsletter articles, and “blast” emails will be used to inform the congregation regarding progress, plans for in person worship, and continued Zoom or live streaming presentations of Sunday and mid-week worship.
5. Ushers and/or greeters will maintain a visitor log (including phone numbers and email addresses) for all who enter the building in the event that they may have come in contact with someone with the disease and reporting is required. To the extent possible, the log should be managed by a greeter or an office staff-person or volunteer or follow some other no-touch method.

## **When we are ready to return to in-person Worship**

1. Everyone will enter the church through the front door in family units as directed by the ushers or greeters careful to keep a 6 foot separation between family groups.
2. Seating has been labeled in the nave to limit seating to 25% of our capacity – 21 people (our capacity is 85). We will ask that families choose a space that they will typically occupy during worship. If you typically attend the eight o'clock service, we ask that you continue to attend that service (it may be held in the chapel capacity 6). We may also plan on having outdoor services.
3. There will not be nursery or Sunday school.
4. There will not be a receiving line after the service
5. Collection plates will not be passed during the service. One will be placed by the entrance of the nave. Place your offering in one of the plates before or after the service. You may continue to mail in your offering.
6. Holy Eucharist will be limited to the Host only.
7. Physical touching will not take place during the passing of the peace.
8. Music will be limited to instrumental offerings only. Singing is not permitted, (humming is okay!).
9. Following the service, dismissal will be by family units as guided by the ushers. Everyone will exit through the main / center aisle and the front door.
10. There will not be a coffee hour following the services.
11. We are unable to have pot lucks or buffets at this time.

## **Building use**

There will continue to be limited office activities. All those who are using offices in the church will be required to use face masks if there are more than one person in the space at a time, regular use of hand sanitizer and hand washing, 6 feet of separation is also required. Cleaning of all surfaces used during the course of the work before and after use including door knobs, countertops, and office electronics.

## **Other Guidelines:**

Facemasks will be made available for those who do not bring them to the building.

A plan will be in place for cleaning between user groups, including cleaning between worship services.

We will maintain appropriate stock of tissue, soap, hand sanitizer, and disposable paper towels for drying hands.

AA and NA will be allowed back into the building if they are willing to follow guidelines provided by the diocese on building use including maintain a list of users for contact tracing, are willing to follow building guidelines for cleaning, social distancing and group limits, and hygiene protocols. We will be working directly with them toward the goal of allowing them to return to the building. In the meantime, we will be working on allowing them to use the outdoor space around the church. They will bring their own chairs, maintain social distancing, and use masks.

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### **Mass on the Grass**

Mass on the Grass will take place Sunday August 9, 2020, weather permitting, at the pavilion at Jaycee Park. There will only be one service that morning at 10am. You will need to bring your own chair, so we can socially distance from each other. We can not have a potluck, but we can bring our own sack lunch and have lunch together, if you want.

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### **Limited Service Back in the Church**

We will be doing eucharist with a very limited number of congregants - only six in addition to the altar party - who will be invited. If you wish to attend in person, please email Rev Gail at [gashafer@aol.com](mailto:gashafer@aol.com) that you are able to attend, and would like to attend Eucharist at either 8 or 10 am. We can invite only six people to each of the services. As we have a small congregation, we will be able to rotate through all members over just a few weeks. There will be plans for outdoor services including Eucharist up to once a month. This will be discussed with the Vestry, and we will be making additional announcements.

If you are sick, have a temperature, have a new cough, please stay home! We must care for each other during this very challenging time.

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