

## **COVID-19 Preparedness Plan for SALT Parish**

South Arrowhead Lutherans Together (SALT Parish) is committed to providing a safe and healthy worship space for all our Pastor, volunteers, members and visitors. To ensure we have as safe and healthy worship space, we have developed the following COVID-19 Preparedness Plan in response to the COVID-19 pandemic. We are all responsible for implementing this plan. Our goal is to mitigate the potential for transmission of COVID-19 in our buildings, and that requires full cooperation among our Pastor, volunteers, members and visitors. Only through this cooperative effort can we establish and maintain the safety and health of our Pastor, volunteers, members and visitors.

The SALT Parish Smart Team is responsible for implementing and complying with all aspects of this COVID-19 Preparedness Plan. The SALT Parish Pastor and volunteers, members and visitors have our full support in enforcing the provisions of this policy.

Our members and visitors are our most important assets. We are serious about safety and health and keeping our Pastor, volunteers, members and visitors at SALT Parish. Our COVID-19 Preparedness Plan follows Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and Minnesota Department of Health (MDH) guidelines, federal OSHA standards related to COVID-19 and Executive Order 20-48, and addresses:

- hygiene and respiratory etiquette;
- engineering and administrative controls for social distancing;
- cleaning, disinfecting, decontamination and ventilation;
- prompt identification and isolation of sick persons;
- communications and training that will be provided to our Pastor and volunteers;
  - management and supervision necessary to ensure effective implementation of the plan.

## **Screening and policies for employees exhibiting signs and symptoms of COVID-19**

The Pastor and volunteers have been informed of and encouraged to self-monitor for signs and symptoms of COVID-19. The following policies and procedures are being implemented to assess volunteers, members and visitors health status prior to entering the worship space and to report when they are sick or experiencing symptoms.

- Temperature screening will be completed for all, volunteers, members and visitors when they enter the building(s). Those experiencing symptoms after attending an event at the SALT Parish are asked to inform both Minister David Erdmann and Sharon Zorn (SALT Parish President).

## **Handwashing**

Basic infection prevention measures are being implemented at our churches. All volunteers, members and visitors will be asked to wash or sanitize their hands prior to or immediately upon entering the facility. Hand-sanitizer dispensers (that use sanitizers of greater than 60% alcohol) are at entrances and other locations in the churches so they can be used for hand hygiene in place of soap and water, as long as hands are not visibly soiled.

## **Respiratory etiquette: Cover your cough or sneeze**

Pastor, volunteers, members and visitors are being instructed to cover their mouth and nose with their sleeve or a tissue when coughing or sneezing and to avoid touching their face, in particular their mouth, nose and eyes, with their hands. They should dispose of tissues in provided trash receptacles and wash or sanitize their hands immediately afterward. Respiratory etiquette will be demonstrated on posters and supported by making tissues and trash receptacles available to all volunteers, members and visitors. "Stop the Spread" signs are posted at each entrance and other locations in each building.

## **Social distancing**

Social distancing of six feet will be implemented and maintained between volunteers, members and visitors in the sanctuary through the following:

- Refrain from attending in-person worship if they have any symptoms of being ill. Worship services will be livestreamed on Facebook alongside in-person worship.
  - Adults and children over the age of 2 are encouraged to wear face masks to protect others should they be asymptomatic. (The American Academy of Pediatrics recommends that children age 2 years old and under do not wear masks).
- Maintaining 6 feet of distance between family groups by sitting every other pew in worship and limiting the number of worshippers in attendance to 50% capacity of the sanctuary.
- Bulletins and offering plates will be placed on a table in the narthex for members and visitors as they enter the building.
  - There will be NO sharing of the peace at this time. Members and visitors are asked NOT to shake hands or give hugs before, during or after worship.
  - There will be NO coffee fellowship at this time. Members are encouraged to leave the building immediately following worship.

## **Cleaning, disinfection, and ventilation**

Regular housekeeping practices are being implemented, including routine cleaning and disinfecting the sanctuary, restrooms. Frequent cleaning and disinfecting will be conducted in high-touch areas, such as phones, door handles, railings, etc. All areas of the building will be cleaned and disinfected prior to and following worship and other events.

Appropriate and effective cleaning and disinfectant supplies have been purchased and are available for use in accordance with product labels, safety data sheets and manufacturer specifications and are being used with required personal protective equipment for the product.

## **Communications and training**

This COVID-19 Preparedness Plan was communicated in writing to all SALT Parish Smart team members on June 18, 2020. Communication will be given to all volunteers, members and visitors upon arrival at the church. Members, volunteers and visitors will also be advised not to enter the church if they are experiencing symptoms or have contracted COVID-19. This COVID-19 Preparedness Plan has been certified by the SALT Parish Smart Team and was posted throughout the churches June 18, 2020. It will be updated as necessary.

Certified by:

Minister- Dave Erdmann