

Harvey Station Pastoral Charge - St. Andrew's United Church

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Dear friends,

Dust off your Sunday best! We're going back to church!

**Back to Church Sunday
September 20, 2020**

Things will look a little different when we come back together on September 20th, but what won't be different is who we are together as a Community of Faith. The warm, fun-loving church family atmosphere you have come to know and love at St. Andrew's United will be waiting for you. While things like congregational singing, Sunday school and Passing the Peace are on hold for now – our ministry of music, children and young families ministry and community outreach projects continue in both familiar and new ways. Children and young families will be welcomed back with pew packs of Sunday school materials they can use to enhance worship and take home with them. Sparky the Dragon and Ali the Unicorn will be there to help us Grow with God's love. Instrumental music ministry, soloists and recorded performances will keep our hearts singing. And outreach projects like Drive Thru Food Drives will keep us loving and serving our neighbours and community. And, who knows? To make the most of our Sunday mornings together, the sermons may even be shorter 😊

Alongside our in-person worship, we will also continue to offer worship services online on Facebook Live. Over the past five months through our online presence our community has grown to include folks who because of distance, family, work or health concerns cannot join us in person. Our online community is an important part of who we are as Church and we will continue to welcome folks of all ages and stages into our community both online and in person.

As we live into this 'new normal' together, I anticipate there will be changes and challenges – and celebrations, too – as we move into the fall and winter. Through it all, the ups and downs of living in a time of pandemic, know that we will learn and grow together. And God will be with us every step of the way.

Attached with this letter is our Operational Plan. It's there for you to read over and consider, so that you can join us on September 20th. Much thanks to our Re-entry team: Heather Donnelly, Serena Bradford, Jane Fiander, and Ross Little for their ongoing work.

As always, to keep up to date with the latest developments and happenings follow us on our Facebook Page, Website and in the Lionews. Have a good August and see you in September!

Yours in Christ,

Rev. Christine

Harvey Station Pastoral Charge – St. Andrew’s United Church Operational Plan – September 2020

Masks

- Masks must be worn to enter and exit the building and anytime you are moving about the building while others are present. Masks may be removed upon arriving at your seat.

Entering the Building

- There will be marked areas, properly spaced, to queue for entry to the church building. Do not move forward until the space before you has been cleared. An usher/volunteer will indicate when each person/group may enter, thus moving the line forward.
- In the vestibule:
 - You will be asked the standard screening questions
 - You will be asked to sanitize your hands.
 - Your name(s) and contact information will be recorded for contact tracing.

Offering

- Collection plates will be placed at the entrance and at the exit. There are also several ways that you can donate electronically anytime:
 - **Through PAR** (pre-authorized remittance): Email standrewsharvey@gmail.com for more info
 - **Through e-transfers:** standrewsharvey@gmail.com
 - **Through Canada Helps:** www.canadahelps.org/en/charities/harvey-station-pastoral-charge

During Worship

- In the sanctuary:
 - You must proceed only in the directions indicated by arrows.
 - Try to avoid contacting surfaces with your hands.
 - Follow the guidance of the ushers/volunteers to your seat.
 - Seating will proceed from the front to the back.
 - There will be no preferred seating. The next entry will not be permitted until seating is completed.
 - The only people allowed to sit in groups would be those who are in one household or have arrived in the same vehicle.
 - Any children attending must remain seated in the “family” group they arrived with.
 - Once seated, you must remain in your seat. If for some reason you need to leave your seat, indicate to a masked usher/volunteer what your need is.
 - There will be no hymn books. There will be no Choir. There will be no singing. (Case reports have shown that singing, especially in enclosed spaces, can be a potent distributor of Covid-19)
 - Maximum capacity is limited to 50 persons (per NB Dept. of Health)

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Following Worship

- Exiting the building will proceed from the front, past the platform, through the door to the CE Centre, and immediately out through the side door.
 - Sanitize hands again upon leaving the sanctuary.
 - Remember, any post-service conversation in the parking lot must take place at a distance of 6 feet or greater.

Accessibility

- For those unable to use the front steps
 - Please arrive early to be seated first
 - Another usher/volunteer will be at the side entrance (CE Centre) to monitor and assist