



November 14, 2020

Dear Trinity Family,

As we live in these uncertain times, we rest in the certainty of our Lord's love and faithfulness. We recognize that COVID-19 has caused many disruptions in our lives including the loss of lives. We pray fervently for our health officials and leaders as they seek to carry out their heavy responsibilities. May we do our part in making sure that this virus doesn't spread more.

The following recommendation was released by Sioux County Community Health Partners:

- **With the recent surge in in COVID-19 cases in our area, the Sioux County healthcare leaders urge masking including in churches.**
- **Following Iowa Governor Kim Reynolds' proclamation on November 10 regarding masking and indoor gatherings, the CEOs of the four Sioux County hospitals – along with Community Health Partners – are imploring all residents of Sioux County to help slow the spread of COVID-19 by adhering to gathering restrictions and mask requirements. Wearing masks in indoor public settings helps reduce the spread of COVID-19. *"We as a hospital and health system community implore each resident and visitor in Sioux County to follow the Governor's proclamation requiring masking for indoor gatherings of 25 or more people,"* stated the health system leaders, adding *"Specifically, we urge every church to strongly consider voluntarily submitting to this protocol as well."***

Certainly, we long to continue to meet together in worship and in our faith formation settings. For us to continue to do this, we need to practice proper protocol. We need to respect our leaders and support our local health system community in this difficult time.

For these reasons, we encourage wearing masks beginning at 5<sup>th</sup> grade and up. We also recommend more seating in the Fellowship Hall and remind teachers and students the importance of physical distancing in our faith formation settings.

This is a busy season with our Congregational meeting, Thanksgiving, and our Christmas preparations. For us to be able to move forward, we need to do this together seeking the health and welfare of one another.

Thank you for your cooperation.

Council of Trinity CRC