



St Michael Lutheran Church Greenville, South Carolina

Criteria/Plans Regarding Assembling for Sunday Worship (As of July 8, 2020 - Subject to change)

There are many voices and opinions and matters to be taken into consideration as we think of resuming gatherings. To guide us, the following has been agreed upon by the Congregational Council:

1. Christian faith instructs us to be considerate of our neighbor, to go out of our way to care for the neighbor, and to make sacrifices for the sake of the "least among us." Every step taken will be guided by what is best for "them." What "I" most need or want is for my fellow congregants to experience the love and grace of Jesus my Lord.
2. There are no "rules," but there are promises each of us will make to each other. These promises address the diversity of opinion among us and the variety of practices which make each comfortable. These will change, with time and future discussion. Those unable to make such promises should speak to a member of Council, or our Pastor. Such persons will not be shunned or shamed, but should delay gatherings until the points in our agreed upon covenant are acceptable to them.
3. While resumption of activities will make it possible for some to come to the church's facilities, "attendance" will be viewed differently - we are not expecting persons to attend; but creating opportunities.
4. We will continue to make use of FaceBook Live throughout the summer. Sunday liturgies will be designed with the live-streaming participants in mind. Those participating within the sanctuary will understand the need for a camera and camera operator.
5. Additional "Guidelines for Sunday Morning Worship" follow. This outlines the process for gathering and disbursing.
6. A third document is also below. It is a "Covenant for those attending Sunday Morning Worship at St. Michael Church". These are the promises we will make to each other.
7. Should the need arise, funerals will follow the guidance of social distancing and good practice. This is likely to mean small gatherings for immediate family at the graveside or in SMLC's Memorial Garden.