

The Presbyterian Church of Deep Run Communicable Disease Guidelines

The Presbyterian Church of Deep Run is committed to providing safe and sacred space for all people. In light of recent news about the Coronavirus Disease, we caution everybody to be sure to follow the Bucks County Department of Health recommendations:

- Frequent hand-washing with soap and warm water for at least 20 seconds
- Avoiding close contact (within six feet) with people who are sick
- Avoiding touching one's eyes, nose and mouth
- Staying home when sick
- Covering one's coughs or sneezes with a tissue and throwing the tissue in the trash
- Cleaning and disinfecting frequently touched objects and surfaces with household cleaning sprays or wipes

We also know that Church is a place where large groups gather, and we need to be aware of how that affects our health and the life of the Church. Using common sense precautions to slow or prevent the spread of the flu or other illnesses among members, we will support and encourage the PCUSA Presbyterian Disaster Assistance guidelines:

- During passing of the peace, simply smile and say the words, without hugs or handshakes.
- Ask ill members to stay home. Provide alternative spiritual care for those who cannot attend worship or other functions due to these precautions.
- Ask members to sit in alternate rows, to provide the recommended 3 feet social distance during an outbreak.
- Train ushers to assist those who may be affected. Tissues, small bottles of sanitizer, and masks can help.
- Have alcohol-based hand sanitizer (minimum 60% alcohol) in the restrooms for use after hand washing.
- Increase diligence when cleaning kitchens, restrooms, and classrooms. Use disinfectant spray on all hard surfaces, including door handles.
- Clean children's toys in Sunday school classes and nursery school facilities after each class. Mix one part household bleach to ten parts water (make fresh solution for the day of use), or use Clorox® surface spray with bleach.
- Increase the supervision of small children in hygiene habits (nursery school and Sunday school.)
- Consider changing communion practices away from common cup and shared loaf. Consider using prefilled communion sets or have on the celebrant, gloved, handle bread disbursement. Prepare elements wearing gloves and masks. Keep elements covered until used. Communicants can be brought forward by rows.
- Ensure that those handling food (for any church functions including Meals on Wheels, food pantry or in-house food service) follow enhanced precautions for safe food handling, including the use of gloves, masks, and hair coverings.
- Turn off and mark all water fountains "do not use".