

Parish of St Andrew – Langley
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standrewslangley@shaw.ca

Dear Friends,

Some of you are aware that our parish has entered into Phase 3 of the Diocesan protocols for reopening our building. This means that: we are welcoming back some, but not all, of our user groups; we are starting to share communion again under the Diocesan protocols; and we will be starting up in-person Bible Study again in September. We will continue to keep our regular Sunday 10am service online as a Service of the Word on the Zoom platform in conjunction with St Dunstan's.

For your information:

Already started:

- Sunday 8am in-person Communion service according to the Book of Common Prayer
- Thursday 10am in-person Communion service according to the Book of Alternative Services

You must register in advance if you are planning to attend these services as we are only allowing a maximum of 30 people and need to ensure that we have your contact information in case contract tracing is required.

Beginning the week of September 7:

- Tuesday 7pm in-person Bible Study physically distanced in the church
- Thursday 11am in-person Bible Study physically distanced in the church

You must register in advance if you are planning to attend these Bible Studies as we are only allowing a maximum of 10 people and need to ensure that we have your contact information in case contract tracing is required.

Protocols:

1. We continue to ask that people wear masks or face coverings as much as possible when they are inside the church.
2. The bathrooms will continue to be closed except in case of emergency. Please plan accordingly.
3. Please wash your hands and/or use hand sanitizer as much as possible.

As we move into the fall and begin to look ahead towards Advent and Christmas, I want to hear from you about what kinds of events or ministries you would be interested in attending. Please be as creative as possible! For example:

- An outdoor Messy Church event for families with children including physically distanced communion.
- An outdoor service and fellowship time on a Saturday afternoon.
- A parking lot/ drive-in service or concert one evening.
- An outdoor Advent or Christmas carol service with extreme physical distancing and very quiet, 'in your bubble' singing.
- A Zoom fundraising concert broadcast live from the church.

- A gift basket fundraiser with baskets to buy and deliver to those who have been isolated for too long.

Please use your imaginations and share with me your ideas of events that you and your family would be interested in attending.

Please also consider your financial gifts to St Andrew's. Currently, in addition to your regular offering which goes into our general operating account, we are asking for gifts towards:

1. The Building Fund (projects include new flooring, a new roof, & repaving the parking lot),
2. The Refugee Fund (please also consider gifts of furniture and/or housewares),
3. The Primate's World Relief and Development Fund, and
4. The Sources Langley Food Bank.

Finally, Joanie and I are re-imagining some of our fellowship spaces. In the hall, we are planning to discontinue the use of the giant round tables on Sunday morning, and are looking at creating more of a café feel. We are looking for comfortable chairs, some nice artwork for the walls, small coffee or end tables, houseplants, and floor lamps. Our hope is to provide a more comfortable and welcoming space for us when we are able to meet together again for fellowship on Sunday morning, and also for the Recovery groups who use our space during the week. (For physical distancing, they will require more space than is available in the lounge.)

In the lounge, we are looking at creating a small chapel rather than a small living room. We have moved the couches out and some pews in, as well as the small electric keyboard. We are looking for something to use as a small altar in that space, perhaps a counter-height table of some kind. We are also looking for some religious artwork to hang on the walls. We are wondering about renovating or removing the gas fireplace in order to make use of the hearth as a prayer station. Any thoughts or contributions you could make to either of these projects would be most welcome.

Please continue to check-in on one another and remember to drop me a line every so often, either an email or a phone call, just to let me know how things are going. My email address is sandrewh@hotmail.com and my phone number is 778-999-9153. I continue to pray for each one of you, and ask that you pray for me as we continue to navigate these challenging times.

I remain yours in Christ,

Andrew

the Rev Andrew Halladay
Vicar, St Andrew's Church – Langley