

(Document Issued Pre-June 10, 2020 Meeting)

SPLC—COVID TASK GROUP—an evolving framework

Guiding Principles: living, evolving

Planting Hope—Core Values: *Worship*

Compassionate service

Hospitality

Teaching and Learning

How have we been faithful to these values ? Examples: virtual worship; drive-through communion; zoom Bible study; virtual Sunday School; daily devotions; member check-ins; zoom group meetings, real and virtual food drives, support to community organizations coffee conversations etc

How can we continue to be faithful to them ? **how can we grow** with and through them ?
(perhaps engage congregation in this process?)

Other principles:

- health and safety of members and staff is highest priority,,
- drives time frames and plans
- science informed decisions
- multiple sources of information—synod, local, state govt, experts,
- consider tech capacity—members ? church ?
- consider demographics, health status—generally and specific
- consider staff capacity—time, expertise, health, etc
- commitment to 2-way communication,
- commitment to continuing education and engagement of congregation
- consider insurance requirements, limits

Realities: life is different, will be different, for individuals and our collective family of faith
uncertainties and risks will persist
we are a resurrection people; we are a resilient community of faith
we live from a place of hope and abundance
undefined end point

Images/metaphors: journey—St Paul's journey;

creative wonder of anticipation, possibilities

faithful and creative responses; beyond maintenance to growth !

faithful in our resilience

originally thought sprint, but now marathon

Opportunities/ functions to plan for :

worship and gathering—many forms
church related activities within building—prayer, mediation, bible study, meals, education
church related activities in outdoor spaces
Preschool –summer ? fall start ?
Wildflower—summer ? fall start ?
Involvement in community based activities
Groups that meet at St Paul's

Scenario planning—both format and timing-- driven by guiding principles, conditions and capacity

Task: Develop a chart of options and considerations to guide the journey—flexible to changing conditions, needs

Thoughts/ideas:

continue virtual options
commit to hybrid, mixed-media offerings
series of short services ? , with time between
building open for prayer/meditation
outdoor/camp services
matins ?, vespers ? , evening prayer ?
emphasis on spoken participation (but not communal recitation); music provided, not sung
service flow available to print and bring, including children's activities
how to create community for baptisms, funerals, etc
how to move forward with communion—at services, continue with drive through?

Consider: Plenty of hand sanitizer, masks available, etc
Management of "touched surfaces", public spaces
Traffic flow—one way in, out; restroom guidance
Seating—spaced ? if outdoors, self-provided ? church provided ?
Materials--Hymnals, attendance pads, toys, etc removed
Process for use approvals, permissions

Budget/staffing/support implications:

--cleaning supplies
--hygiene supplies
--extra cleaning
--member support with worship offerings, education sessions, etc

Tina and Linda—work on chosen metaphor

Joan and Dean—worship logistics

Janet—annotated bibliography of sources

