

The definition of "holding pattern" is "a state or period of no progress or change."

That's where we are right now at Bethany. Now, that's not a bad thing. In fact, it gives us a chance to catch our breath and take a look at what else we should be doing. And, in spite of the change of weather, it seems that we are holding our breath - waiting for Covid to release us, waiting for the election, waiting on contractors and permits, waiting on the Lord? But, even in the phrase, "holding pattern", it connotes an organized way of being, a pattern is something with direction - even if it is directed back on itself like a circle. We are waiting to breathe in the newness of our church as we head into a yet another uncertain time. In the midst of that pattern, there are good things happening. The Western Jurisdiction of United Methodist Volunteers in Mission is so excited about Sacred Doors and Bethany that they have booked a Virtual Mission Trip for November. The invitation to this Virtual Mission Trip begins with a Seminar I will present at the end of October and the invitation is sent out to the entire United States. So, we can breathe a little as we continue to circle in our holding pattern that is Bethany.

Peace and Blessings,

Pastor Denise

COVID 19 SAFETY PLAN FOR RE-LAUNCHING BETHANY UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

As of this writing, we have NOT been granted permission.

Bethany United Methodist Church is planning to re-open through slowly allowing our members to prepare for new possibilities. This process is committed to provide a similar worship experience for all members of the church, including those staying safe at home and those attending the church building in person.

All members of Bethany UMC community are required to follow these guidelines with faithfulness and grace. Zumba, the current renter of the downstairs Fellowship Hall, is required to follow these guidelines and more found in their contract dated August 1, 2020. The contract can be terminated at any time.

Safety Measures in place:

1. A sign-in table is at the main door of the church where:
 - a. Temperatures taken (above 100 degrees will be required to return home and contact their doctor.)
 - b. Use hand sanitizer.
 - c. Must have a mask covering their mouth and nose.
 - d. Sign in and record temperature.
 - e. Clean pens to sign in, used pens in different container to be cleaned after church.

2. Social distancing is required by:
 - a. Sanctuary chairs six feet apart.
 - b. Chairs that can be used are marked with a pom-pom and smiley face.
 - c. Access only to the hallway, sanctuary and bathroom.
 - d. No food, coffee hour, or other social interaction that would not be considered social distancing.
 - e. No singing by congregation.
 - f. Pastor and song leader stand behind a plexiglass barrier. Pastor and the song leader are married to each other.
 - g. No more than 15 people will be allowed in the sanctuary.
 - h. The cleaning team will disinfect with Clorox water all surfaces just after and just prior to services. Areas to be cleaned are door handles, bathrooms, pews, table in the Narthex that holds thermometer, pens, and sign in sheet. Cleaning team will wear gloves when cleaning surfaces that were previously touched.
 - i. No food and drink prepared or consumed in church except for communion elements.

COVID 19 SAFETY PLAN FOR RE-LAUNCHING BETHANY UNITED METHODIST CHURCH


continued

3. Bathrooms will have sanitizing wipes, soap dispensers, and paper towels. Only one person in the bathroom at a time. Windows are open.
4. The only rooms that will be used are the Sanctuary, Bathrooms, and hallway.
5. After each use of the building, the cleaning team will disinfect with Clorox all of the door handles, equipment, chairs, bathroom, etc.
6. Offering will be placed in an offering plate on a table in the Parlor.
7. Each family will be asked to bring their own bread and juice that will be blessed by the pastor at the front of the church behind the plexiglass partition.
8. Windows will be opened and a fan at the front of the sanctuary and at the back will keep air circulating - even in winter.
9. Drinking Fountain is off-limits to all users.



This check-list has been approved by the One Board Team of Bethany UMC.

Sacred Doors
an urban ministry



INFORMATIONAL
SEMINAR
THURSDAY OCTOBER 29
7:00 PM

REGISTER NOW
TO RECEIVE ZOOM CODE
www.bethanyumcdenver.com

A graphic for an informational seminar. At the top, the text "Sacred Doors" is written in a large, elegant script font, with "an urban ministry" in a smaller, simpler font below it. Below the text is a silhouette of a city skyline with various buildings and a bridge. The main body of the graphic is a large, light purple circle with a white outline. Inside this circle, the text "INFORMATIONAL SEMINAR" is written in a bold, sans-serif font, followed by "THURSDAY OCTOBER 29" and "7:00 PM" in a smaller font. At the bottom of the circle, the text "REGISTER NOW TO RECEIVE ZOOM CODE" is written in a small font, with the website "www.bethanyumcdenver.com" below it.

All Saints' Day

NOVEMBER 1, 2020

While children can of course wear costumes, we will also remember those who have passed. We will have a time to show pictures and give a memory about the departed person.

