

Dear Siblings in Christ:

The congregational Covid Response Team met January 6 to discuss ongoing care for the health and well-being of the community during the rise of omicron cases. The group recommends:

- move to online worship for 3 Sundays: January 16, 23 and 30th.**
- upgrade mask usage to N95 or KN95 for all who enter the building, following the CDC guidance**
- pause the service of food and drink for CtK/Cristo Rey ministries in the building**
- move to virtual, or outdoor ministry gatherings***

In addition, the Covid Response Team is actively seeking more information about air quality and air exchange in various building spaces, including the sanctuary that will help us make more informed decisions about safety precautions.

In three weeks, this team will reassess these decisions and provide an update to the congregation.

I am very grateful for each individual on this team and the entire staff. They bring wide and deep expertise, commitment, the generous ability to pivot quickly, and ongoing care to our community that reflects the love of Christ. It is a joy for me to get to know them, their good humor, and their narrative of care for neighbor.

We will also be personally contacting congregation members without email access to let them know about these changes. If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to reach out to me or any member of the team.

In hope and peace,

Pastor Sonja, on behalf of the Covid Response Team:

Ana Becerra, Bob Benke, Judy Benke, Dale Erickson, Elaine Foell, KC Gubrud, Nate Crary, Julie Philbrook, Diane Shallue, Paul Wilde-L'Heureux

Prayer: Merciful God, Healer of all, we lift to you all who are ill or suffering in any way from Covid19. Surround them and their dear ones with wholeness, hope, comfort and healing. For all who have died in the midst of this pandemic, we are bold to ask for your continued courage and love for those closest to them. For all who work in healthcare, give them endurance and rest. Stir up your Holy Spirit to guide, energize and encourage our faith community. Open us to your holy winds and refresh us in the waters of renewal. We pray in the name of the Great Healer—Creator, Christ and Spirit. Amen.