

# Love of Christ Lutheran Church

1525 North Power Road  
Mesa AZ 85205

Fax: (480) 832-2583  
Office: (480) 981-6199

**REOPENING**

July 22, 2020

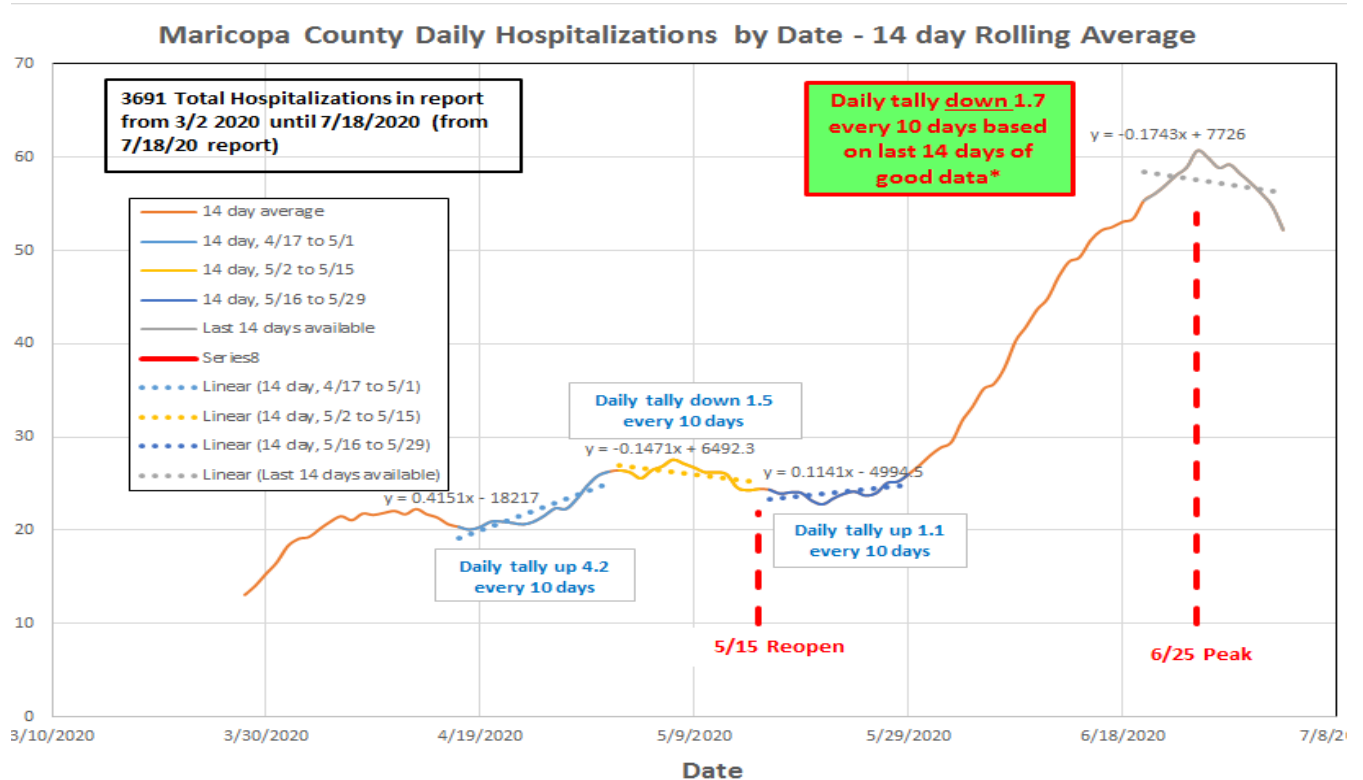
Dear LoC Community:

On Tuesday, July 21, 2020 the Love of Christ Board of Directors met via ZOOM and decided that we will re-open to in-person worship on **Sunday, August 2, 2020** offering a service at **9:00AM and 11:00AM in the Center of Compassion. Livestream worship on Facebook and YouTube will continue each week at 9:00AM.** This letter is to inform you of the conditions for reopening and the protocols we will follow.

The Board previously agreed we wanted to see a 14-day rolling average of declining hospitalizations due Covid-19. Board President Dan Wilke has been tracking the 14-day rolling average. He explains:

“A rolling average (also known as a moving average) is a calculation used to allow a better understanding of data trends by smoothing out short term fluctuations over a period of time **Each data point in a 14-day rolling average is the average of the previous 14 days of data.** Subsequent data points are calculated in the same way using that day's previous 14 days. The 14-day average continues to "roll" through the rest of the data set to result in a smoothed chart.”

Following is the most recent as of 7/20/20 chart Dan has created:



**\*Currently excludes most recent 16 days of data due to incomplete data (ref. MC Covid Website)**

As previously communicated in our letter of June 16, 2020 the Board also agreed that we would follow Centers for Disease Control and Prevention recommendations for public worship when we reopen:

- **Smaller group gatherings**-we will initially **allow up to 50** regular worshipers not counting worship staff or volunteers. The Center of Compassion is where initial services will be offered which can seat 750 people, so we will be at less than 10% capacity of our space.
- **All worshipers MUST register prior** to Sunday worship either online with Sign-Up Genius or by calling Darlene at the Church Office 480.981.6199 ext 110. This will allow appropriate contact tracing in the event someone who attends worship does test positive for Covid-19. Once pre-registration hits 50 that service will be closed to additional attenders. Sign-up will be on a first-come, first-serve basis. If we experience over-subscription to Sunday Services, the Board will determine the need for additional services or expanding seating capacity. (Please see page 4 for the important addendum for using Sign-Up Genius)

- **6 feet or more** physical distancing will be practiced as people enter and exit the CoC. Orange traffic cones will mark appropriate spacing outside the south CoC entrance. The **south entrance** will be used **only for entering** the CoC and the **northeast entrance** will be **only used for exiting**. A seating configuration in the CoC will enable physical distancing. Households will be able to sit together.
- **Face-coverings will be required.** If you do not have a face-covering to use or you arrive at the CoC without, one a face mask will be provided. If you cannot tolerate wearing a face-covering, for now, we ask that you remain home.
- **Check-in Table-**Upon entering the CoC a check-in table will be in place with a check-in host 6' away who will review the registrations and mark your attendance. From there you will move into the CoC.
- **Hand-sanitizing required-**Hands-free hand-sanitizer stations will be found at the entrance and the exit. We ask **as you enter for worship** you either wash your hands in the restroom, if you cannot tolerate hand-sanitizer, or use the hands-free sanitizers near the entry way.
- **Ushers will escort** you to seating available and ushers will escort worshipers to the exit at the conclusion of the service following physical distancing guidelines.
- **Offering of Communion** will be introduced later. We will continue to offer brief Communion services for small groups of 10 scheduled throughout the week during the month of August.
- **No bulletins, announcement sheets, registration books,** or offering plates will be handed out. **Each worshipper will check-in** with a host at a table in the CoC entry.
- **Offering plates** will be placed near the exit doors on NE corner of the CoC.
- **Drinking fountains** will not be available and **restrooms** are to be used as little as possible. We are in the process of creating completely touchless/hands-free restrooms in both the CoC and Sanctuary including doors!
- **No live singing,** as singing even with face coverings is strongly discouraged by the CDC. Aerosols from our mouths can be projected from the sides of a mask up to 20-30' when people sing. Incorporation of live solos and other vocal offerings will be considered as we adjust to our new reality. Pre-recorded music offerings will continue both in our live and livestream service.
- **Conversation and fellowship-**Because of the need to control the flow of people in and out of the building in a safe manner, we ask that you wait until you are outside the CoC, away from the exit doors, to participate in conversation with others outside your household, practicing appropriate social/physical distance. We know the challenge it will be to hold back from wanting to hug or be close to those we have not seen for over 4 months. Both Pastors, for the sake of health and safety, will be very intentional of masking and maintaining adequate distance as our own exposure to a larger community begins.

**The Board encourages those who are in an at-risk category for contracting Covid-19, have underlying health issues, are caring for someone at risk, cannot wear a face-covering or are not feeling well to please stay home and continue to use our livestream online offering of worship at 9:00AM on Facebook or YouTube.**

**What about other weekday ministries and community groups using our facility?**

Outside of structured small in-person youth group gatherings, and weekday preschool with approved protocols, we are waiting to open the campus more broadly. After we have some experience with a return to in-person worship, the Board will begin the conversation of opening the campus to other in-person ministry and community offerings.

We appreciate your patience and continued prayer support, as we seek to make decisions in the best interest of the whole community.

In Christ's Service,

The Board of Directors of

Love of Christ Lutheran Church

Dan Wilke, President

Clyde Anderson

Dave Dohrmann, Vice-President

Mike Barker

Patti Delaney, Secretary

Jeff Michaels

Steven Aman, Treasurer

Pastor Nanette Christofferson

Karen Humbert

Pastor Steve Talmage

Mike Obert

**IMPORTANT INFORMATION ABOUT USING SIGN-UP GENIUS:**

To use Sign-Up Genius go to the Love of Christ Lutheran Church Facebook page or connect through the link on the weekly ENews. You can also go to [www.signupgenious.com/findasignup](http://www.signupgenious.com/findasignup) and put in the search page [Steveaman@loclc.org](mailto:Steveaman@loclc.org).

**If there is more than one person joining you in registering after the first person has signed-up in the comment section of that registration, please list all other household members joining you for that Sunday.** This will provide us with an accurate count per service. If you would rather call the Church Office, **call Darlene at 480.981.6199 ext 110**, and she will register you. Remember, you will need to choose between the 9:00 and 11:00 options.

August 2, 2020 Services

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/904054cafa92ea7fa7-inperson>

August 9, 2020 Services

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/904054CAFA92EA7FA7-inperson1>

August 16, 2020 Services

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/904054CAFA92EA7FA7-inperson2>

August 23, 2020 Services

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/904054CAFA92EA7FA7-inperson3>

August 30, 2020 Services

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/904054CAFA92EA7FA7-inperson4>