19 February 2021

Dear St. Stephen's,

It is with relief and joy that I send this email notice. We have received permission from our Bishop to move into phase 2.5. Bishop Reddall has just sent out this announcement and it basically means we can return to in person worship while observing the masks, 6ft distancing, and sanitizing protocols that we were previously following. This can take effect next weekend. We will resume in person worship on Saturdays at 5pm and Sundays at 10:30am (this service will continue to be broadcast on live streaming) and Wednesdays at 9:30am. Praise God!

With the new guidelines we can also include Christian Education opportunities for in person gatherings... with protocols. Our Lenten reflection discussion will be at 4pm for Saturday in-person worshippers and at noon for Sunday worshippers (both online on zoom and in person in the Education building).

- Lenten devotional readings available online Rev. Allison recommends two free online devotionals for Lent 2021: Episcopal Relief and Development Lenten Devotional (<u>https://www.episcopalrelief.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/01/Lent-2021-English-Color.pdf</u>) or Pittsburgh Theological Seminary Lenten Devotional (<u>https://www.pts.edu/UserFiles/File/PDFs/Lent%20Devotional%202021/</u>Lent%20Devotional%202021%20-%20Print.pdf). Call the office to request a printed copy.
- Sunday Lenten Reflection on the Episcopal Relief and Development Devotions Starting Feb. 21st, Rev. Allison will facilitate an online discussion of the ERD Lenten readings of the previous week. To attend the discussion, use the following Zoom link: Join Zoom Meeting: https://us02web.zoom.us/i/86935184063?pwd=M0ZhWEc3NEVRVncvQUY5VjZSa2hlUT09 Meeting ID: 869 3518 4063 Passcode: 923037 Or Dial in by your location +1 346 248 7799 US (Houston) +1 669 900 6833 US (San Jose)

Other church activities will also resume as they were before our most recent return to phase 1... using protocols. So, Wednesday morning worship, 12 step groups, groceries 4U, etc...

Hope to see you soon! Peace, Allison