

To our Rusk Family and Friends:

On May 31, 2020 we plan to hold our 1st public worship service since we ceased on March 15; over two months ago. I have been so thankful and encouraged to see how you have done your best to stay connected in whatever way you could. I share your desire to glorify God and to worship together as the Body of Christ here at Rusk.

During these last two months we have all taken in many facts and many opinions and it has been hard to tell the two apart. We have each taken our stand and listened to those we agree with. When and how to return to church; is certainly one of those debatable issues. So it is with great caution and much prayer that we want to begin to come back together. Classis Zeeland has given its recommendations to begin this process on May 31 and our council agrees that this is the right time to begin. We also recognize that some will not be ready because of their health, views on the statistics and science or even political views. We must all respect those views and decisions.

We certainly want to strongly encourage anyone who is not ready or should not come for health reasons to stay home and use the other options that we will be providing. (See below) For those who choose to attend we will be taking some precautions to provide a safe environment for those who attend. (See below) We are also purchasing some new equipment to upgrade our Live Stream capability to make these options more desirable.

Morning Services will be open for public worship in the sanctuary; but will also be Live Streamed (Rusk Facebook and ruskcrc.org) and the audio will be broadcast in the parking lot (FM 103.9). These will also continue to be recorded. DVD's will still be available upon request.

Evening Services will be Drive Up services in the south parking lot (FM 103.9) and will also be recorded. (Exceptions: severe weather or a guest pastor)

Below are listed the precautions we will strive to accomplish together:

1. All will enter through the south and north narthex doors. The doors will be propped open
2. Individuals or families will sit one pew apart and sit 6 feet apart; pews will be blocked off every other pew
3. Hand sanitizers will be available at entry and exit

4. Bring your own Bibles and use the screen for singing (Books and Bibles will be removed from the pew)
5. The Lord Supper as announced will be done in the evening drive up service and you will bring your own bread and juice
6. Offering receptacles will be provided as you exit
7. There will not be a nursery. We will all be glad to hear our children during worship again. However if you need to you can take your child out to the car and continue to listen to the service on FM 103.9 or use the library as needed
8. Fellowship time should take place outside of the church building; no refreshments will be served.
9. We will intentionally attempt to keep the worship time shorter and will sing less verses to limit your exposure
10. We will take steps to sanitize appropriate areas and run the exhaust fans after each service

We ask that everyone be extra considerate of others and stay home if:

- You have cold like symptoms of cough, congestion, aches
- You have flu like symptoms of fever, or upset stomach
- You have shortness of breath
- You have been in contact with someone who has
- You aren't sure if you feel good; err on the side of caution and stay home

We ask that everyone guard each other's space

We ask that everyone honor and respect each person's decisions

We ask that everyone have patient, humble and forgiving attitudes toward each other

We ask that everyone continue in prayer as we maneuver along in this coming year

This will require some balancing on every ones part between; caution and panic; and being careless and being careful.

The goal of course remains the same as always; to glorify our God.