

Statement concerning possible COVID-19 exposure at First Baptist Church, Prince Albert

Issued September 16, 2021

It has come to the attention of our church that we have had individuals with active COVID-19 infections attend our morning worship services on August 29th, September 5th and possibly September 12th. It should be noted that none of these people knew they had COVID-19 when they attended church.

We have been given the following directions from the provincial COVID hot-line.

After possible contact with someone with an active COVID-19 infection,

- vaccinated people are to self-monitor and do not need to isolate unless they have symptoms or hear from SHA
- unvaccinated people are recommended to get a covid test and isolate until test comes back negative. If they were in close contact with the person, they should isolate 10 days even with negative test

We are taking the following steps to help protect people in attendance at church functions:

1. We are asking anyone with symptoms, anyone who is vulnerable, or who knows that they have been in contact with people who are ill, **to remain home. This applies to all ages, from children to our senior adults.** Livestream options are available for people who stay home. Please call the church office if you need any assistance while you are home.

2. **EDIT – The SK government reintroduced mandatory masking as of Sept 17, 2021 for all indoor public places, including places of worship.** We will be respecting this rule. Masks will be available at the front door and in the office.

3. We will ask people to **hand sanitize** when they enter the building, and whenever they feel it's necessary during their time in the building. Hand sanitizing stations are located in the lobby and by the office door, as well as various places through the church.

4. We are asking people to observe **physical distancing of 2 metres** from others they do not live with or associate with frequently. This includes seating for worship, visiting and other activity.

5. We will ask people to sit in their family groups, and **to not mix family groups** and households.

6. **We are cancelling any church activities that include the sharing of food.** This includes "Coffee Time" after the worship service, and our monthly potluck lunches. This DOES NOT affect the making of lunches for the Reaching Out Street Ministry, or our weekly bread distribution ministry, although both of these will be expected to take appropriate precautions.

7. **If you have been diagnosed with COVID-19**, please contact the church and inform us of when you were in the building. This is important for us to know, so that we can give adequate warnings to people you may have been in contact with. Your name will be kept confidential, unless you give us permission to use it. Please call the church office if you need any assistance while you are ill.

Any questions or concerns about this statement can be directed to Lead Pastor Jim Galbraith, jim@fbcpa.net or 306-764-5869.