

# COVID-19 PROTOCOL

UPDATED APRIL 21, 2021

To minimize the risk of the spread of the COVID-19 virus, for the safety of our members and surrounding community, Council has adopted the following protocols. These protocols are effective immediately and will remain in place until further notice.

## **CORPORATE WORSHIP**

- In-person corporate worship services are cancelled until further notice
  - Livestream services will be available Sundays at 9:30 am and 3:00 pm.
  - In-person attendance at all live stream services is limited to 10 people (minister, serving elder, musician, sound booth person, powerpoint person, and singers)
  - For those who have had trouble with the live stream, we encourage you to view the archived version which will be available on Livestream shortly after the service
- For deaconry collections, e-transfers can be sent to [cornerstonecanrctreasurer@gmail.com](mailto:cornerstonecanrctreasurer@gmail.com) and must be specified for the deaconry (no password required). Please note that donation receipts cannot be issued for deaconry funds.
- Attestations will be processed and announced as usual
- Baptisms will be performed as usual, with the parents and child attending. Special requests for more guests can be made with their Ward Elders.
- Weekly church bulletins will be distributed via Church Social

## **OPERATION OF COUNCIL AND CONSISTORY**

- All in-person meetings are cancelled until further notice. Virtual meetings will be held as needed.
- An Emergency Response Team has been formed consisting of Council executive, the chair of the deaconry, and br. Steve Mans, who works in the healthcare field
- The Emergency Response team will review this protocol document on a weekly basis and make and communicate adjustments as the situation evolves

## **CATECHISM AND OTHER INSTRUCTIONAL CLASSES**

- All instructional classes will be conducted in accordance with the current protocols in place for our local schools.

## **BIBLE STUDIES, CLUBS, AND COMMITTEES**

- All in-person Bible studies, and club events are cancelled until further notice unless they qualify under the exemption for mental health and addiction support services

## **FELLOWSHIP GROUPS**

- No in-person fellowship groups meetings are to be held at this time. All members are encouraged to maintain phone and virtual communication to encourage each other, especially seniors and other members who may be more isolated and vulnerable at this time.

## **PASTORAL CARE**

- In-person visits between office-bearers and members for spiritual and emotional support are permitted providing all parties are comfortable with meeting and safety protocols are followed
- Elders and deacons must ensure all senior members, and others who may be vulnerable, have access to the physical, mental, and spiritual support they need
- Elders and deacons must ensure all communications are delivered to members who do not receive Church Social messages

## **BUILDING USAGE**

- No access will be granted to the church building except for worship services, instructional classes, or meetings that fit under the exemption for mental health and addiction support services

## **COMMUNICATION**

- On-going communication about our COVID-19 protocols will be communicated via:
  - Church Social
  - Website
  - Social Media
  - Phone Calls (for members without access to the above methods)

If you have any questions or concerns about these protocols, please email the Emergency Response Team at [clerk@cornerstonehamilton.ca](mailto:clerk@cornerstonehamilton.ca).