

2020-07-03 Newsletter Memos - Live-Streaming, Singing in Church, Perfume in Church

We go “LIVE-LIVE” on Sunday 12th July!

Hello Everyone!

We have been transitioning, over the past couple of week's, from pre-recorded online services, engaged from the comfort of our homes, to recommencing live worship. As of Sunday 12th July, we plan to be back with live-live worship: live in-person worship for both the 9.15am and 11am faith communities; and *live-streaming* of the 9.15am worship service.

We have been amazed and delighted at how our pre-recorded online services have been received, not only within the BUC faith community, but also by other churches and individuals. As we transition back to live worship, we are mindful of the positive impact of BUC's presence, and wish it to continue via the concept of live-streaming.

Some specifics:-

- Pre-recording of worship services during the week will cease, apart from the occasional pre-recording of songs.
- There will be three 'desks' in operation within the chapel on a Sunday:- The Sound Desk; the EasyWorship Desk, each doing essentially what they've always done; and the *Live-Streaming* Desk.
- Tim Lee, our much-loved Technical Facilitator has been instrumental in both our move to pre-recorded online worship, as well as this current move into live-streaming. With live-streaming, various "feeds" can be combined in a myriad of ways to form the streamed video output onto the internet:- two camera feeds, the projector feed, and other optional image feeds. The within-chapel experience will consist of whatever is happening live in the chapel, together with whatever is projected onto the screen via the EasyWorship computer.
- The live-streaming option, whereby people can watch the service live on the internet, or watch it at a later time, will be helpful for people in a number of situations:-
 - In the case of someone within our BUC faith community who chooses, at this stage, not to return to live worship.
 - In the case of someone who is sick and is presently unable to attend live worship.
 - In the case of someone who has transitioned into residential aged care and can no longer attend BUC in person.
 - In the case of people who might be travelling or on holidays.
 - In the case of people in other churches, or individually not affiliated with a church.

In all these cases, we see live-streaming as a new means of outreach for our church.

Recently our worship committee met and discussed the matter of privacy and permission issues with regard to the service being live-streamed onto YouTube.

Please be aware that from Sunday 12th July, the 9.15am worship service will be live-streamed onto YouTube for either immediate or subsequent viewing. If you have any concerns about this, please contact Michael Dowling or Chris Bray.

If anyone does have a concern, it will be feasible to set up a “film-free zone,” within which no-one will be captured on video.

For your information, the two video cameras are positioned such that the prime focus will be upon the podium, and whomever is speaking at it. The angle will be such that if and when the camera pans, should it capture people on video it will do so as a rear shot, and not as a close-up. There will be no front-shots nor close-ups of people.

SINGING IN CHURCH

As we transition back to live worship, a concern has been shared about the potential risk of spreading COVID-19 in church through singing (through the spraying of micro aerosol droplets). For those wishing to read the ABC news article, the link is given here:-

<https://www.abc.net.au/news/health/2020-06-14/how-can-we-resume-choir-practice-without-spreading-coronavirus/12344812>

Synod has been contacted, and has offered the following advice:-

This is the question and answer given on the SA government’s FAQ page:

Can church choir practice resume? Does it need to be seated? What about physical distancing?

Churches, choirs and music rehearsals and performances can resume or increase numbers to 75 per room with the density and physical distancing recommendations in place. They can be seated or standing as long as the physical distancing is maintained.

We are aware of the advice given in the ABC news article. We encourage local church councils to make a decision on what is right for them.

The worship committee has discussed the concerns raised about the risk posed by singing in church, whether it be *band* singing or *congregational* singing, and have decided on the following course of action:-

Live Worship for the 9.15am faith community

For the period July through to around mid-August, we will not be having the live band, but will instead employ pre-recorded music. During this time, we request that people remain seated for songs and, if they do sing, to do so “softly”! If this sounds strange, I guess that is consistent with the strange times through which we hesitantly navigate!

If anyone within the 9.15am community remains concerned with the risk posed by this approach, we would ask that you contact Michael Dowling or Chris Bray. It may be feasible to create a “no-singing zone” within the chapel (okay, that sounds strange too).

Live Worship for the 11.00am faith community

For the period July through to around mid-August, we *will* have organ playing and singing. It was felt by the worship committee that, given the smaller numbers of 11am members, it will be possible to provide extra spatial distancing to reduce the risk of transmission. This means that in between the two services, stewards will need to re-jig the seating somewhat.

Once again, if anyone within the 11am community has concerns regarding what has been proposed, please advise Michael Dowling or Chris Bray.

The decision will be reviewed around mid-August.

REQUEST REGARDING WEARING OF PERFUME IN CHURCH

Concern has been expressed about the wearing of perfume at church by some attendees. A number of people have chemical sensitivities which cause them to be badly affected by many perfume smells. This can include, amongst other responses, itchy and sore eyes, coughing, sneezing, the triggering of asthma and hay-fever attacks, headaches and even migraines of several days duration. The taking of antihistamine medication as a prophylactic can be, in many cases, ineffective.

The request is therefore respectfully made, as part of our returning to live worship in a different way, that people refrain from wearing personal fragrances when attending worship. Your willingness to assist in this area will be appreciated.

SAFETY CONSIDERATIONS ASSOCIATED WITH HOLY COMMUNION

We have considered Synod's general guidelines regarding conducting Holy Communion and have proposed the following. We share this information in order that people are clear on the safety precautions being taken.

Preparation of the Elements:

- The person preparing the elements will adopt the following process to the individual pieces of bread (including some gluten-free) and individual cups of juice, taking care to:-
 - Wash hands
 - Gloves on
 - Cut bread into individual pieces; prepare individual cups.
 - Place a pair of tongs together with the bread
 - Place hand sanitiser within reach of people on their way to Holy Communion
(**NOTE:** Regarding the “necessity” of hand sanitiser use on the part of the recipient, provided that the following “contactless” method is used, there will be no risk of cross-contamination; therefore, the use of hand sanitiser is largely to protect the person themselves from the risk of contamination *from their own hands having touched something else and then raising their hand to their mouth*)

Serving the Elements:

- Bread is served by the server using the tongs to drop a piece of bread into the hand of the recipient
- Cup is taken by recipient themselves

MORNING TEA

Yes, we will be having morning tea after live worship, as of Sunday 2020-07-12.

Yes, there will need to be strict protocols in place to minimise the risk of transmission.

Some specifics:-

- Sharing of utensils and food is not permitted
- Servers to first wash hands, then wear gloves for serving
- Single serving point for beverages and biscuits
- The server adds water, milk, sugar and coffee/tea to the cup
(this eliminates sharing of utensils)
- The server, using tongs, places biscuits on the saucer of the recipient, if desired
Perhaps add another point about when mingling to keep socially distancing during morning tea??

We trust this information has been helpful as we transition back to live worship.

Worship Committee
2020-07-03