

St Paul's Moving Towards Green Stage of Re-Opening

After prayerful consideration, Rev. Bonnie is happy to announce that St Paul's will slowly moving towards the Green Stage of re-opening over the course of May 2022.

Moving out of Amber and into Green Stage means that we move out of remaining restrictions. In practical terms this means that choir and congregational singing fully resumes; that meetings, refreshment hour, social and fundraising events proceed, observing any rules in place by the local health unit; and that the Eucharist may be celebrated and served in two-kinds (the return of the chalice), however the practice of intinction is not allowed. More detailed information will be provided as we make our steps towards being fully operational.

Please know that we will continue to make every effort to have the church well-ventilated and continue to follow best practices. No one will be required to take their mask off or to drink from the common chalice. Regarding the chalice, I am continuing to explore a variety of ways that we may offer the wine in safely while respecting our Anglican beliefs.

Bottom line, please be kind and respectful of individual decisions regarding masking and social contact. Of course, these steps will not be taken if cases rise significantly in the area.

The Re-Opening Plan is as Follows:

- **May 1st** - choir can remove masks while singing; Gradual hymn re-introduced with Gospel procession (all masked during Gospel); refreshment hour resumes with people seated while eating & drinking masks on while mingling.
May 15th - masking optional during church service/refreshment hour and use of the building during the week; at services, collection of the offering by sides people resumes.
May 29th - move fully to Green Stage; all remaining restrictions removed.