



## Panora United Methodist Church

119 E. Main Street, P. O. Box 601  
Panora, Iowa 50216  
Telephone (641) 755-2655  
Website: [www.panoraumc.org](http://www.panoraumc.org)

August 4, 2020

Dear Panora UMC family,

We greet you with the grace and love of Jesus Christ our Savior. The Panora United Methodist Church is inviting followers/members to worship while observing first-hand the tapings of our Facebook Livestream on Sunday mornings. It's been a long time since parishioners have been invited back to our sanctuary, and we know how much you've missed it.

**WHY:** We are not yet re-opening for worship as you used to know it, based upon on-going coronavirus infections in our county. A combined committee of Church Council and Worship Committee has thoroughly thought out and planned guidelines for the safety of our congregation. Further evaluations will continue through the coming period for the safety of our congregation – this is of utmost importance. We pray these next months will pass quickly and we'll soon be able to open fully.

**WHEN:** Attendance to worship and observe the taping will begin August 16 at 9:30 a.m.

**WHO:** All are invited to enter the sanctuary who: 1. feel well (no temperature or symptoms), 2. have not been traveling lately and 3. are wearing masks. The Iowa UMC Conference recommends that in a church our size, our attendance should be about 25% of our normal attendance during this cautionary period, so we will continue to concentrate on our live-stream worship. Those who are not yet comfortable being around others are encouraged to worship at home on Facebook, the church website, or the local TV channel on Saturday evenings, all of which will continue.

**WHERE:** Please come into the sanctuary through the north (upstairs) door, and you will be directed by ushers to sit in a pew a safe distance from other families. The nursery and Sunday school classrooms are not open yet.

**HOW:** Please use the restroom at home before you come. Plan to arrive before 9:20 a.m. When you arrive, you will have a temperature scan and will be directed by an usher to a seat away from others (not your regular seat). Singing is discouraged. There will be no fellowship time, passing the peace, offering plates passed, nor any physical contact. Adults and children will please remain in your seat for the prelude, worship service and postlude. After the taping is over, the ushers will then release you from your row, beginning in the rear. We ask that you exit the building at that time, and please do not visit with others (including worship leaders) until you are outside. If you wish to visit with others outside, please remain masked and socially distanced while on our church campus. These guidelines are for everyone's protection; each of us is precious.

We thank each and every one of you for your patience. Please bring your own mask.

In Christian Love,

Dennis Shepherd, pastor  
phone or text 515-351-2268  
e-mail [revdshep@gmail.com](mailto:revdshep@gmail.com)

Jane Shepherd, pastor  
phone or text 515-351-2269  
e-mail [jane.shepherd@iaumc.net](mailto:jane.shepherd@iaumc.net)

Charles Brobst, chairman  
phone 712-574-1883  
e-mail [cjbrobst@netins.net](mailto:cjbrobst@netins.net)