

PLEASE READ... BETHANY MANOR COVID-19 UPDATE FOR BETHANY INDEPENDENT LIVING RESIDENTS AND FAMILIES – September 24, 2020

You are receiving this communication because you are an *independent living* resident of Bethany, or you have provided, and/or a Bethany resident(s) has provided your email address as they have identified you as their family/friend contact person.

Please note that recommendations for individual actions related to this pandemic are simply that. They are considered the best, and safest practices to follow but independent living residents are not legally obligated to follow them. We encourage you to do so but we also recognize that you will use your own discretion for specific situations.

Please note the following updates to our independent living visitor guidelines:

- Independent living residents are permitted to have up to 2 external visitors at a time. Now, those 2 external visitors no longer must be the same 2 people going forward. Visitors in the Manor/Tower are asked to follow precautions which are to self-screen, wear a mask, use sanitizer and to go directly from the entry area to the suite they are visiting and directly out when the visit is over; no stopping/lingering in common areas. As Bethany Place also houses assisted living residents, visitors entering the Place building **must** wear a mask while they traverse through the Place common areas to get to the resident's suite, in addition to the other precautions noted above.
- In the past we have recommended that families not pick up their resident in a vehicle due to social distancing concerns. We realize that this is very challenging and ask that you do the best you can in your situation. Wearing a mask is recommended when social distancing is not possible.
- We have recommended that out-of-town visitors not stay overnight in a resident's suite but we now feel that this is a better option than the out-of-town guests taking the resident to a hotel, a restaurant or other places where the risk may be greater. To decrease the risk to our staff and to manage work loads, guest suites remain unavailable.
- The provincial recommendation is still to avoid travel out of province and/or avoid receiving out of province visitors unless essential; however, it is not prohibited. Residents and their visitors are asked to use common sense and discretion to avoid known hotspots, whether that is within the province or beyond.
- Out of country visitors must self-isolate elsewhere in Saskatoon for 14 days prior to being permitted into our complex. Any residents who have returned from out of country travel must also self-isolate for 14 days before they leave their suite.
- These guidelines are being reviewed on an ongoing basis and your feedback and suggestions are welcome.

Bethany common rooms/spaces (Fellowship Centre, Dining Room, other Activity/Games Rooms)

We are resuming worship gatherings on Sunday mornings in the Fellowship Centre beginning in October. Provincial guidelines will be followed and that includes reduced attendance to accommodate social distancing. For more information contact Lois Siemens, Spiritual Care Coordinator at 306-242-6416 or lois@b55.ca.

We are not permitting additional larger gatherings in the Fellowship Centre or Dining Room until further review. If we do get a case of COVID it will stand us in good stead to have been conservative in permitting larger gatherings.

Please note that updated signage indicating room capacities, to honour social distancing, has been placed at the various Activity and Games Rooms that have been opened for resident-use.

All Bethany common rooms/spaces, activity rooms, etc. remain closed to external (non-resident) visitors.

As always, we thank you for your understanding and support during these continuing challenging days. We will continue to provide updates when more details or other plans become available. We ask that you please share this information with your family and friends.

In addition to these emailed communications we also place updates on the Home page of our website at: www.bethany55plusliving.ca.

Bethany Manor/Saskatoon Mennonite Care Services Inc.