

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

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You are receiving this communication because you are an *Assisted 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.

As we have previously advised, we are required to, as closely as possible, treat Assisted Living with the same pandemic related principles as Personal Care. Therefore, while we can relax on some visitor guidelines for independent living residents, our indoor visitation guidelines for Assisted Living residents must remain closely in line with Personal Care visitation guidelines and few changes can be made.

### ***As such, the following visitor guidelines for Assisted Living remain the same:***

Up to two non-resident family members/friends can visit each Assisted Living resident in their suite. These two visitors should be the same two people consistently going forward; you should not change it up. Visitors should not be those who attend larger gatherings elsewhere. It is imperative to avoid having a number of different visitors coming into Assisted Living suites; reducing contact with external people is a guiding principle for Assisted Living for both the residents as well as for Bethany Resident Services staff who are required to enter Assisted Living suites on an ongoing basis.

Precautions are to be followed, which include self-screening, wearing a mask in all common areas of Bethany Place (including elevators and stairwells), practicing social/physical distancing and proper hand hygiene/sanitizing, and going 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 personnel are not required to screen Assisted Living visitors, visitation appointments **do not** have to be booked/arranged with Bethany. However, when possible, visitors should avoid visiting at mealtimes so as not to interfere with staff delivery of meals to the resident.

### ***Please note the following updates to our Assisted Living visitor guidelines:***

- 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. Continue to take all necessary precautions, including wearing a mask when social distancing is not possible.
- Out-of-town visitors cannot stay overnight in an Assisted Living resident's suite. 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.

***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](mailto: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](http://www.bethany55plusliving.ca).

Bethany Manor/Saskatoon Mennonite Care Services Inc.