

Riverdale United Church, Toronto Pandemic Plan

In the event of a Pandemic declaration by the Medical Officer of Health or the Ontario Chief Medical Officer of Health, Riverdale United Church will follow their direction and undertake all best practices for public gatherings and for public worship.

Beginning November 1, 2009, and for the foreseen future, the following health safety practices have been put in place:

- **Hand Cleanliness.** Bottles of hand sanitizer will be available at the entrances to the Sanctuary and at the Coffee Table.
- **Sign of Peace.** Passing the Peace will be an opportunity for sharing an intercultural practice. Individuals not wishing to shake hands or be touched will place their hands together as if in prayer and give a slight bow to the other saying either “Namaste” or “Peace be with you”.
- **Sacrament of Communion.** At the beginning of the sacrament, the minister will clean their hands with hand sanitizer. Communion will be distributed in the form of individual glasses, washed in the dishwasher, and cubes of bread. The communion stewards will also sanitize their hands before preparing and sharing communion.

Ministry Personnel

- If the Minister is sick and unable to exercise his/her ministry, there will be no regular visitation; neighbouring clergy will cover for pastoral emergencies (e.g. funerals).
- The Minister will implement all health precautions recommended by Public Health in order to protect the health and well-being of members of the congregation.
- Pulpit supply will be covered by one of the members of the congregation who are part of the regular summer rotation.
- Critical decisions which require the Minister's attention will be made by e-mail or telephone. Decisions will be written down so as to track for future record.
- If the Music Minister is sick and unable to play, she will contact her alternate. The Minister can also contact her if the music minister is not able.

Worship and Meeting Cancellation

- Any decision regarding the cancellation service or Church Board meeting cancellation will be made by the Chair of the Church Board (if able) in consultation with the minister and stewards.

Building Closure

- The church building may be ordered closed by an Ontario Chief Medical Officer of Health or Toronto Medical Officer of Health order or by a decision of the Chair of the Church Board. Building users will be advised by the Chair or his designate of the closure of the building.