

Breakfast Cafe Ministry

At the Breakfast Cafe Advisory Council Meeting two weeks ago, it was recommended and approved based on Kent County Health Department requirements and the Bishops' Pastoral Directive that we offer a bagged breakfast on Saturday mornings from 8:30-9:15. The bagged breakfast will include a number of things including a sandwich. Requirements for social distancing and sanitizing spaces will not permit us to prepare, serve and seat parishioners or guests within the Parish House at last for the foreseeable future.

Present at the meeting was a Kent County Health Department representative who indicated that the Breakfast Cafe cannot occur at the same time as worship Services in the Sanctuary. The representative indicated that all meal programs whether in shelters, churches or restaurants will be required to adhere to County Health Department requirements. We very much want to resume the Breakfast Cafe Ministry and are able to do so because parishioner Marc Vander Velde offered to have the bagged meals prepared at his restaurant in Greenville and to bring them to St. Mark's for the Cafe.

The recommendation from the Advisory Council was presented to the Vestry at the Vestry Meeting on Tuesday night. After a substantive discussion, the Vestry approved the recommendation.

We will begin this new process on Saturday, May 30, at 8:30 a.m.. Several staff members have volunteered to be present and Breakfast Cafe team leaders will be invited to come, meet and greet, help with social distancing requirements and ensure that the breakfast bags are available for the neighbors.

We have learned that God's Kitchen will suspend offering meals on Saturday and Sundays. The Kitchen is serving 250-350 bagged lunches every day and not within their building.

Brooke Jevicks from Degage Ministries and a member of the Advisory Council assured us that Degage would work to increase its Sunday breakfast offering. Thus, we will help ensure that our neighbors have a breakfast offering on Saturday mornings at St. Mark's and on Sunday mornings at Degage.

We ask for your prayers and support as we move forward with resuming the Breakfast Cafe Ministry at St. Mark's. ~ Christian+, The Breakfast Cafe Advisory Council and the Vestry of St. Mark's.