



# Church and Chapel

Ritter-Larsen Bros.

Funeral Homes & Pre-Planning Centers

Church and Chapel Funeral Homes understands the severity and the risk involved with the Coronavirus. As a public entity we want to inform you that we are taking precautions to reduce your risk to exposure while in attendance at our facilities.

We are monitoring communications distributed by the Center for Disease Control and the National Funeral Directors Association as well as our local and state health agencies in regard to information on the Coronavirus (Covid-19). To ensure that your risk is minimized while attending an event at our facilities, we are suggesting the following:

1. Our staff will make environmental cleaning procedures top priority at our facilities. Door handles, knobs, faucets, toilets as well as any surfaces that come into human contact will be diligently cleaned with an antibacterial agent.
2. Hot and cold beverage service and food items to the public will be suspended during funerals and visitations at this time to limit exposure. A personal space zone (distance of 6 ft.) is suggested between visitors and family members of the deceased. No skin contact is recommended such as hand shaking or hugging.
3. We are suggesting obituaries be written to mention services shall be attended by immediate family with the intentions to have a smaller gathering. Many churches have their own restrictions as how they will allow a funeral to be conducted and how many may attend should you wish for a church service. We have altered our seating chairs in our funeral home chapels where the first 2 rows of seating chairs are placed "normal" and are reserved for the immediate family. All other seating chairs in our chapels have been arranged with social distancing in mind and are several feet apart from one another which will reduce our seating capacity. We are suggesting a seating capacity for our locations as follows:
  - A. Waukesha/Pewaukee Location: 70-75 people.
  - B. New Berlin Location: 30-35 people.
  - C. West Allis Location: 25-30 people.
  - D. Brookfield Location: 35-40 people.
  - E. Cudahy Location: 30-35 people.
4. Hand sanitizer and Kleenex will be available (for as long as these items are available to us). Signage will be provided to wash your hands before and after a visit. Systems will be put into place to give immediate family an opportunity to come, honor, and pay their respects in a less crowded environment.
5. When making funeral arrangements, our staff will ask the family if they would be comfortable making the arrangements over a speaker telephone to limit contact especially if the funeral has been preplanned. If funeral arrangements are made in person, we will ask the family to send as few as possible people with no more than 3 to make the arrangements. We will sit in our largest arrangement rooms first and we will separate ourselves at the arrangement table as best as possible.



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6. We may need to ask the family to consider immediate family to attend burials with a funeral service to follow at a later date. Family is welcome to identify or have a private viewing of their loved one prior to burial.
7. We operate our own crematory and cremation request will stay on schedule.
8. If anyone is experiencing flu-like symptoms, they should stay home from the event.
9. If your loved one is a confirmed virus death, we will serve your family. We will use precautions to protect your family, guest and our staff. Here are some suggestions:
  - a. If the deceased person tested positive for a Corona Virus death, our staff has implemented procedures how to care for your loved one.
  - b. We will need to treat family members of the deceased as if they are virus positive. Therefore, precautions shall be taken to protect your family, guest and our staff.
  - c. Funeral arrangements will be done over the phone in these cases.
  - d. We suggest immediate family burial or cremation in these cases.
  - e. Should the family request for some private time with their loved one, we will allow it. Spouses/partners, children of the deceased are welcome to spend time with their loved one. Or, up to 3 people may attend if no family is applicable.
  - f. This private time will be done at our New Berlin or Waukesha chapel. We do recommend the embalming procedure take place of the deceased for this private time and viewing.
  - g. We will sanitize our chapel before the family arrives and after they depart.
  - h. Our staff will be minimal and participate from our lobby area.
  - i.. This policy may change at any time.

Honoring and remembering a life are what we are all about. Public health and safety are first and foremost in our minds during this time. If you have any concerns or apprehension about attending our facility, please stay safe at home. Updates or changes will come as more information is known.