



September 29, 2021  
COVID Update

Dear St. John's Residents, Tenants, and Families,

On Monday, September 27, we tested residents at both St. John's nursing homes and tenants at Knutson Place Apartments for the COVID-19 virus. All residents and tenants tested negative for the virus.

We did not have good test results for employees that work at the Woodlands. This week we had five employees that work at the Woodlands test positive for the COVID-19 virus. We had one employee that works at The Meadows test positive and one employee that works at the Luther Place nursing home that tested positive. We also had one employee that works at both the Luther Place nursing home and Knutson Place Apartments that tested positive. This has been one of the worst weeks for employees testing positive for the Covid virus since the start of the pandemic 18 months ago.

Four of five St. John's buildings are in "outbreak" status. Waters Edge is the only building that is not in "outbreak" status. At this time, we need to limit visits to Essential Caregivers, and compassionate care visits. We are still able to have outdoor visits, but it would be best to hold off on outdoor visits for about a week, or until we've completed another round of testing.

The main rationale for Covid testing is to identify the spread of the Covid virus and to quarantine or isolate people that are infected. This helps to prevent or at least slow the spread of this virus. Over the last few weeks, we have been testing employees twice a week, and residents and tenants once a week. We will continue to test employees, residents and tenants for the Covid virus, so that we can monitor the spread of the virus and protect St. John's residents, tenants, employees and visitors.

I would continue to implore people to get vaccinated. The Covid vaccine is proven to be safe and effective. People that are not vaccinated are more likely to become seriously ill or die from the Covid virus. I would also strongly encourage people to wear a mask when out in public or in large group gatherings. Wearing a mask is not a big ask. Please take precautions to protect yourself and others from the Covid virus. It is simply the right thing to do.

Sincerely,

Scot Spates

You'll find a *home* in our community.

**ST. JOHN'S LUTHERAN COMMUNITY • 901 LUTHER PLACE ALBERT LEA, MN 56007 • PHONE (507) 373-8226 • FAX (507) 379-9506**  
**WWW.STJOHNSOFALBERTLEA.ORG**