

Shelter in Place on the Road

By the time you read this, we will be doing our best to shelter in place in our older motorhome, probably in Kansas. Yes, we will be leaving sunny, getting hot Arizona and returning to wonderful Moorhead. I checked out the Center for Disease Control web site for the definition of Shelter in Place and here is what I found. "Sometimes the best way to stay safe in an emergency is to get inside and stay put inside a building or vehicle." The web site offers some other tips, such as get inside, have your emergency supplies and when possible your pets. Since we have pets and emergency supplies, I believe we will be okay inside our motorhome. And since we will be sheltering in the motorhome, I plan on moving it down the highway with us in it. OK, I understand that I'm stretching the recommendations a bit with the moving part. However, we will have very little contact with anyone else as we go, no different that in our home. Since the motorhome is fully equipped with a furnace, air conditioner, stove, fridge, bathroom, bed and storage tanks for waste, we should be comfortable. We even have a generator that runs on diesel as does the engine of the motorhome. All we need is fuel stations open along with way, the open road, a couple open RV parks. Actually, some Walmart stores still allow RVs to park in their lot, we've done that a couple times.

Arizona has shelter in place guidelines similar to Minnesota and we have followed those. The average age of the residents of Green Valley is 72 years, so we have a large number of people that fit into the vulnerable category. Compare that to the average age of people in Moorhead which is 29. The retirement homes and assisted living homes went under lock down early and so far it has worked. Places of worship have cancelled all large gatherings. I've worked with a Temple here to record services and put them on YouTube. Check out bstc.us on the web and you can see the videos. I've helped them set up Zoom to hold meetings, discussion groups and classes. It is not as good as in place meetings, but it works and keeps people connected. Since the bars are closed, Sweetie and I have even had 'virtual happy hours' with friends. My nephew in Thief River Falls was really happy that it was close to 50 degrees one afternoon, so he was sitting on his porch with a gas fire pit going drinking a class of wine. We did a short Facebook video chat.

We're on the road again and the next article will be from Moorhead. Be Safe!