Five Churches serving delicious pizza, craft beers with indoor, outdoor seating

By CATHERINE SHEN
@CSHENNBH

The pizza oven at Five Churches Brewing continues to fire up delicious pies to pair with local craft beers and patrons just keep on coming.

“It’s really been great seeing a lot of familiar faces and new ones who are getting out of their house to try new breweries,” said Christina Caccioppoli, a partner of Five Churches Brewing on Arch Street. “That is really encouraging for us and I think it’s nice to see people wanting to enjoy being outside while the weather is still nice.”

The Arch Street brewery opened up their patio for outside dining during the “outdoor seating” reopening in May, with tables spaced out to adhere to proper social distancing rules and having customers make reservations first. Since indoor dining reopened in June, all seating has been switched to being on a first come, first served basis, which is working out well for the restaurant.

“We hope to keep the patio open for as long as the weather permits and people are comfortable being outside,” said Caccioppoli, who stated the restaurant team is currently in discussions on how to serve customers better during the winter season.

With outdoor and indoor seating combined, the brewery used to be able to seat roughly 150 people before the pandemic. Now the number has been slashed into half and when they lose patio seating due to the winter season, the number will only get smaller.

“We’re not sure what the winter is going to look like yet but it’s something we’re discussing right now,” she said.

Their weekly pizza special is back, which is something Caccioppoli is excited for and expects the kitchen to come up with many creative ideas. With the fall season, they are experimenting with flavors that complement autumnal tastes and hopes that will keep the positive spirits going.

“I always look forward to this because our kitchen gets really creative. They just did a mashed potato pie that was really great,” she said. “We try to make it different and appealing to people each week, and our kitchen staff is also really good at using local resources and vegetables that are in season. So keep an eye out for some fun fall specials that will be coming up.”

The brewery has also restarted its private events, where people can rent out the space for up to 25 people, as per state guidelines.

“We took a little break from that for a while but we’re starting that back up with restrictions,” Caccioppoli said. “We’ve done a couple of them so far and people are really happy with it and felt comfortable, which was great. So we definitely would like to get the word out there that if people are comfortable doing larger events, we are here and ready to host.”

For the most part, Caccioppoli said everyone is doing well with face masks and social distancing guidelines.

“Everyone understands that we have to follow the rules and we hope everyone continues to stay safe so we can continue to enjoy each other’s company,” she said.

Five Churches Brewing is located on 193 Arch St. They are open for indoor and outdoor dining with to-go available. They are open Monday from 3-8 p.m., closed Tuesday and Wednesday, Thursday from 3-8 p.m., Friday and Saturday from 12-9 p.m. and Sunday from 12-6 p.m. Contact them at 860-223-8080.