

Dear Members and Friends,

For the last year and a half our life together as a church community has been interrupted and curtailed. In an effort to make gathering together in the sanctuary possible, comfortable and worshipful, the Cabinet appointed Rebecca Pugh, Chris Dorman, Amy Pigeon and Lynn Lenhart to a **Covid Steering Committee**. This group met recently to discuss how best to keep First Church and the people who come to worship and use our building worship safe. Following UCC guidelines, the latest research and CDC best practices, they have developed the following plan:

For Indoor services:

- Masks will be required at all times while in the building.
- Services will be abbreviated.
- Seating in the sanctuary will be **every other row** to allow for social distancing, masked congregational singing and serving Communion on the first Sunday of the month.
- All worship leaders, liturgists and choir members will have shown proof of vaccination.

***If you are feeling ill, have Covid symptoms
or have been exposed to others with Covid,
Please do not come to church.***

Choir/Singing Protocols: The Choir will sing in the Choir loft, spaced for safety, wearing masks designed for singing. They will remain at least 10 feet from the congregation. The congregation may sing wearing masks, being spaced in every other row.

Communion: Communion will be served by the Deacons on the first Sunday of the month, with particular attention to minimizing contact among the congregation. Seating will be in every other row to allow for ease in serving communion.

Programs for Children and Youth: The programs will be hybrid: When possible, programs will be outdoors, weather permitting. Masks will be required if meeting indoors for children over the age of two. Childcare will be provided inside the building.

Coffee Hour: Following worship, food and beverages may be served in Fellowship Hall, with masks being removed for consumption while seated at tables or while outside, weather permitting.

As we continue with changes related to Covid, we would like to hear your thoughts. Please email any member of the committee or the church office with any questions or concerns.

Amended November 14, 2021

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