

Covid Task Force March 2021 Updated Protocols

The COVID-19 task force met this week and after thoroughly reading and discussing all the new information shared by the CDC, the Governor, and St. John's family members within the medical community, we are excited to announce the following changes to the St. John's protocols. Please note, we continue to follow our first Wesleyan rule, Do No Harm, as well as all mandates by the Governor.

Worship:

Until further notice, masks are required during service for everyone, even people who have been fully vaccinated.

We have moved to using every other pew vs. every third pew. This change allows for a larger number of congregants during each service while still maintaining social distance guidelines.

When attending church in person, please refrain from sitting in pews with "Do Not Sit Here" signs. Available pews are rotated between the 8:30 and 11:00 service. Also, please refrain from sitting next to people who are not in your pod.

We continue to uphold the expectation of maintaining social distancing between people who are not in the same pod.

Ushers will dismiss congregants from the back to the front of the church. We respectfully ask that you exit the narthex in an expedient fashion.

We are constantly monitoring mandates and suggestions by the CDC and government. As soon as it is safe we will make changes to our worship protocol.

In-Person Small Group Gatherings (Gatherings of 15 or less people)

Protocols for small group gatherings have significantly changed. We are unable to address every scenario in this update. If you have a question or a group that is not addressed in this update, please contact anyone on the COVID-19 Task Force and we will quickly address any questions.

If every member of your small group has been fully vaccinated, masks and social distancing are no longer required when in your meeting room. If members of a small group in which not all participants are fully vaccinated, and the group comes to a unanimous consensus, everyone in attendance feels comfortable removing their masks then you are free to do so. We ask that when walking to the bathroom or down the hall to enter or exit the building everyone wears a mask, for the safety of others who may be in the building.

Cleaning protocols for rooms are no longer required. We ask that you continue to be courteous by placing trash in the appropriate containers and leaving your meeting room in the same or better condition than when your group arrived.

Cleaning protocols for restrooms are no longer required. Baskets with gloves, wipes, and lysol will be available for anyone who would like to utilize them.

Our custodian will sanitize meeting spaces and restrooms as they are used throughout the week.

If your small group plans to meet on campus, please contact the church office so we can add it to the calendar. Knowing what spaces are being utilized is important for a number of reasons, including ensuring proper sanitation.