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## **WSUU COVID GUIDELINES**

### **Guidelines for Sunday Worship and Social Hour**

- Out of respect for the safety of our members and visitors we will continue to require vaccination for all those who are eligible and not exempt. By entering the building, you are attesting that you are vaccinated if eligible.
- We have an optional sign in for visitors to worship for the purpose of communicating in case there is a potential exposure. Members will be contacted by email as well.
- Masking is required for Sunday morning worship including K-8 RE classes. Windows will be opened for ventilation. In the north side of the sanctuary, pews are marked for distanced seating. Please observe this by sitting in the areas marked by blue tape on the pew backs. Hand sanitizer and sanitizing wipes are available for use. Quiet congregational singing while masked is permitted during the worship service. Masking is optional for staff, worship team members, and musicians on the chancel.
- In the lower level, during social hour, masking is optional but encouraged. Food and drink is permitted in this space. Coffee and snacks will be provided when volunteers have been identified for the hospitality ministry. We encourage masking when not actively eating or drinking. Unmasked socializing, eating, and drinking are allowed on WSUU grounds.

### **General Guidelines on Church Property Inside and Outside**

- Please bring your mask to church. Wipes and hand sanitizer will be available in the building.
- Be aware of people maintaining social distance, and respect social distancing requests. Ask before giving hugs or shaking hands—not everyone will be comfortable with close contact.
- No shared food or drink is allowed in the sanctuary. Food and beverages are allowed in the social hall, and small group meeting spaces.
- Except during Sunday service, all persons must enter and exit the building via the office door and schedule meetings through the main office or a staff member.
- Only 2 people are permitted to occupy the elevator at a time.

### **Small Groups or Meetings in our Building, Off Site, and Virtual (under 20 persons)**

- Youth Group and 7-9th Grade OWL groups, when in their designated meeting space, will follow the Seattle Public School's guidelines for masking requirements. When they leave that space, they are required to follow the WSUU Covid guidelines for gathering.
- Small group or special event leaders and participants can decide together whether they will meet in the church building (meeting the requirements above), at a public place, personal home, or Zoom setting. Members may decide through consensus if masking is optional for their gathering.
- If a small group agrees to meet in person in our building with masks optional, they should wear masks until they arrive in their designated meeting space.
- Sharing of food and drink is now permitted in small group meetings.

- Before leaving a church space, close windows securely, dispose of any service items used, use wipes on all used surfaces and straighten the space.

#### **Large Events Inside and Outside our Church Property (20 or more persons)**

- Event arrangements (spaces, times) need to be scheduled with the Administrator.
- Large events are expected to follow the same rules as for worship: masking in the sanctuary and public spaces, masks may be optional in the social hall, and food and drink may be served in the social hall or outside.

#### **Preventing Infection—Notifying—Responding with Care**

- WSUU encourages everyone to be proactive in protecting each other. Stay home when ill, isolate from others, and get tested right away if exposed.
- Contact the main office immediately if you have attended a WSUU in-person gathering (onsite or elsewhere) and you or a household member tests positive or has been exposed to a COVID infected individual. If a positive COVID exposure is reported, WSUU will prioritize safety of our congregational community and respond to local and/or state health department instructions.
- In the event of a positive COVID exposure being reported to WSUU, the membership will be emailed the date and time of day when that person was present at a WSUU event. WSUU will not ask people to share their name as part of contact tracing.

*Please note: The current COVID variants are challenging to predict. These guidelines will be updated as needed to meet state/local health requirements or in the best interests of our congregation. Thank you for the assistance and guidance of the COVID Task Force.*

*Board of Trustees*