

EPWORTH UMC PANDEMIC RESPONSE PLAN

EFFECTIVE JUNE 1, 2021

The well-being of those participating in activities at Epworth is of paramount importance. The goal of this plan is to put forth protocols that will ensure the safety of those coming into our facility. This plan will follow state and local community guidelines. The success of this plan relies on individuals and groups understanding their role in providing for their own welfare as well as that of others.

GENERAL RULES These guidelines will be updated as the situation changes

For all entering

- A mask is optional for those fully vaccinated. For those who are not vaccinated masks are required. Please be considerate of those who are more comfortable wearing a mask.
- Please be respectful of those who desire physical distancing.
- Use hand sanitizer as you enter building.
- Avoid physical contact with people.

If you or someone in your household is not feeling well in any way, please stay home.

If someone in your group tests positive for Covid-19, or has knowingly been exposed, they should not enter the building. You must notify the church office immediately. We are keeping attendance for future contact tracing.

Please be respectful of others who may choose to mask and/or keep distance. Each person has their level of comfort.

Those wearing a mask are likely to also wish to maintain physical distance.

WORSHIP

While we are now meeting in person, the service will continue to be broadcast online.

People entering the building are requested to use the bell tower doors, the ramp door and the 5th Street door leading to the narthex. Other doors are not to be used.

There will be no bulletins handed out. The bulletin will be available online and can be viewed using your smart phone or tablet. All information is projected for those who attend in-person.

When greeting one another, please minimize contact.

When singing we ask the congregation to please wear masks.

Offerings boxes have been placed at the end of each aisle. Offerings can be deposited as you enter or as you leave.

On communion Sundays, a self-contained cup and wafer will be given to you as you enter the service. You will be directed on its use during the time of communion. You may also bring your own elements from home.

When you leave, please remove all items from the pews that you have brought.

5/27/2021

CHILDREN There will be no nursery at this time. Elementary age children may attend Sunday School or remain with their parents.

GROUPS AND MEETINGS

Groups and meetings may gather in person and also via online sources.

Minutes, lesson sheets, and reference materials should be sent out via internet.

Meeting rooms should be scheduled through the church office. When scheduling, the group leader will inform the office as to the number of expected attendees.

All surfaces should be disinfected (no bleach products) before and after use including tables, chairs, rails, and door.

BUILDING USE BY OUTSIDE GROUPS

Outside groups using the building will be assigned an area to meet through the church office. They will use only the space assigned.

All guidelines and protocols applicable to church groups must be followed by outside groups.

Outside groups must communicate with their members regarding the guidelines and all restrictions.

Chairs and tables should be sanitized before and after use. Each group should provide its own cleaning supplies (no bleach products) and remove its own trash.

Office Procedures

The outside doors will remain locked during office hours. Visitors should call ahead before coming to the church office.

Access to the office area will be limited. Business will be conducted at the office door at distance.

Office equipment should be disinfected after use.

All information such as minutes, lessons, handouts, etc., should be sent via email when possible limiting and minimizing hard copies.

Sexton Instructions

Doors, door handles, railings and surfaces will be disinfected prior to and following worship service.

Sanitizing stations are strategically placed throughout the building and will be refilled as necessary.