

St. Mary's Updated COVID Safety Measures (Updated 3/3/2022)

At St. Mary's U.C.C. our singular focus throughout COVID has been to love our neighbor as ourselves, which compels us to prioritize the needs of the vulnerable. Throughout the pandemic, we have done our very best to follow the best data and guidance we have from government, health, and religious entities as an expression of our faith in God and love of our neighbors.

Based on the latest guidance and evolution of the pandemic, Consistory has revised our St. Mary's policy. We believe this is the best balance between safety and comfort. Additionally, though mask wearing will no longer be required for vaccinated individuals (except as noted below) we do encourage masking as a show of kindness and support for those who are most vulnerable (the immune-compromised and those ineligible to receive vaccinations, including children under 5). Remember that the risk tolerance level for individuals and families can vary drastically based on their individual needs and situation, as such please be respectful of "spacing" around other families when selecting a seat.

General Policy

- Masks are optional but encouraged for individuals "fully vaccinated" as defined by the CDC.
 - Current CDC guidelines - In general, people are considered fully vaccinated:
 - 2 weeks after their second dose in a 2-dose series, such as the Pfizer or Moderna vaccines, or
 - 2 weeks after a single-dose vaccine, such as Johnson & Johnson's Janssen vaccine.
- Unvaccinated individuals over the age of two are required to wear a mask unless eating or drinking.
- Social distancing (every other row) will be provided in a section of the sanctuary.
- Greeter checkpoints will remain stocked with masks, sanitizer, etc.
- We will no longer maintain an attendance log for contact tracing purposes.
- We will continue to receive offering at our entry points.
- Communion will still be distributed at our entry points in individual packets.

Children's Ministries

- In collaboration with Spiritual Formation, **masks will be required for all** individuals participating (both adults and children over the age of 2, vaccinated or unvaccinated).
- Nursery room will be open and available for families to use but will not be supervised by staff.
- Masks will be required in the Nursery Room for **all individuals over the age of two**.
- A bin will be provided for "used" toys. Parents should place any toys touched/played with in the bin. Toys will remain in this bin until the following Sunday at which time they can be returned to the general play area.

The Consistory will continue to monitor the situation and update these policies as appropriate to meet the needs of our congregation and our community.