

UU Church of Nashua
Covid 19 Building Use and Church Programming Policy
Date: October 3, 2022

This policy is created and approved by the Safe Congregation Response Team, which consists of the Minister (this role is currently filled by a Sabbatical Co-Chair), Church Administrator, Director of Faith Formation, President, and Vice President. It is in effect until modified by the SCRT. Changes can be made at any time as conditions change, both locally and nationally.

Please do not come into the church building or to programming if you:

- Are exhibiting possible Covid-19 symptoms (especially fever, chills, cough, shortness of breath or difficulty breathing)
- Are in isolation because of a positive Covid-19 test

If you test positive for Covid-19 within five days of attending a church program or service, please inform a member of the staff so that we may inform others who were in attendance. We will keep your identity confidential.

Masks

We strongly encourage the wearing of masks at large indoor gatherings, including Sunday worship services, as part of being in a covenantal community with each other, as we recognize that there are those among us who are additionally vulnerable to the impact of the virus.

- Wearing masks in large indoor gatherings is strongly encouraged.
- Wearing masks is optional for outdoor activities.
- Wearing masks may be optional for smaller groups, after the group consents to the change.
- Church groups, after discussion among themselves, may choose more stringent mask requirements for themselves, but may not reduce them. Each group will be asked to communicate to the church office using an online form of the Covid-19 protocols they have adopted for themselves.

Vaccinations

Attendees: We strongly encourage that all in attendance at Sunday services and church programming will be fully up-to-date on their vaccinations, as part of our covenant with each other and in recognition of the medical vulnerability that exists for

some members of our congregation. Our choices as to Covid-19 protections can have a very real impact on those around us, so we ask that everyone please be respectful of others in this regard.

Volunteers: Anyone volunteering in person at church is strongly encouraged to be fully vaccinated; we will not be asking for proof, but will trust in your commitment to our covenantal community.

Staff: All members of the staff are required to be vaccinated and must provide a Covid-19 Vaccination Card.

We will also employ the following risk mitigation strategies:

- Masks & hand sanitizer will be available throughout the building and at all programs
- Air purifiers will be used in any room where programming is taking place. Doors and windows will be opened to increase airflow when the weather allows.
- Multiple spaces will be available for after church Fellowship Hour, including an outdoor space and an indoor space where no refreshments are allowed.

We encourage all those planning programs or meetings to offer an online option for those who would prefer not to attend in person. Sunday morning worship will continue to be multiplatform, with the option for those involved in the service to be either in person or online.

Renters/External Groups

External groups who are renting space in the Parish House when no church groups are present in the Parish House can set their own Covid guidelines for their group. We strongly encourage these groups to:

- Open windows and doors for ventilation
- Use the air purifiers that we provide in each space