

## **Return to Building Policy, Revised 4/20/22**

In the spirit of our covenant and knowing that we all share the same ultimate goals for the thriving of the congregation:

- We recognize that all of us have deep feelings with regard to our hope for a return to some kind of normal.
- We are all tired of Covid, but it persists. It's important to understand that we're mad at Covid and not mad at each other. Instead, what we hope for is deeper connection with one another. We miss each other.
- As a staff and as a congregation, we rapidly adapted to new technology and a new world. Since then, we have had to make numerous re-adaptations, and each one makes real demands on staff, volunteers, and the congregation. At the same time, each change and challenge has had a domino effect, touching each person and all the programs in the congregation. We take that responsibility seriously.

### **RECOMMENDED POLICY**

Based on the Covid-19 situation today, the following changes to our protocols have been approved by the Board:

REGISTRATION FOR WORSHIP SERVICES will be discontinued.

WORSHIP SERVICE SEATING: People will be encouraged by ushers to maintain social distancing as seating takes place. People who would like to sit apart from others may continue to do so and may request assistance from an usher to locate appropriate seating.

PASSING THE OFFERING PLATES will resume.

SINGING: Because singing is a higher risk activity than talking, for all singing – choir and congregational – we will follow the recommendations and guidelines of the American Choral Directors Association and the Association of UU Music Ministries (AUUMM). As of March 2022, those guidelines are:

- Singers are to be fully vaccinated.
- Singers are to wear a KN95 or N95 mask.
- Singers are to sit at least 3 ft. apart from those outside their household or 'pod.'

FOOD/BEVERAGE: We will allow coffee, snacks, or meals to be enjoyed indoors as well as outdoors at coffee hour and group meetings.

NO CHANGES TO THE FOLLOWING:

1. Masking continues to be required during the time of worship services. However, masking is optional during coffee hour and at other times when meetings of church groups or renter groups take place.
2. Renters and other groups making use of CCUU facilities are permitted to make their own decisions about masking. However, when renters or other groups are interacting with CCUU staff members, they shall be masked.

3. We continue to require\* staff and volunteers working with children/youth to be vaccinated. \*Medical exemption: or wear a mask and have tested negative within the past week.
4. We encourage but do not require proof of vaccination from members or visitors to the church unless they are working with children/youth.
5. Where possible, CCUU will continue to offer multi-platform (in-person and online) worship and RE experiences enabling those who are unable to attend in-person worship to still participate
6. Adults working with the population of youth/children that are not yet eligible for the vaccine will wear masks while working with those children.

NOTE: The UUA suggests engaging in a practice of covenantal consent—taking time to listen deeply to one another's concerns and fears before making any decision that might put members of the community at risk, either physically or mentally. You can learn more here: <https://www.uua.org/leaderlab/pandemics/strategies/masking-guidelines>