UUCH COVID Policy Update

October 25, 2022

The UUCH Board of Trustees has been consistently monitoring community COVID risk levels, health-expert guidance, and our congregation's concerns. While we are aware that risks remain for the spread of COVID, as well as from upcoming flu and virus seasons; we feel it is time to make some changes to our church policy. The widespread availability of vaccines and lower rates in our community, lead us to believe that the requirement for masks in the church building is no longer warranted. Of course, you are still encouraged to wear a mask if you feel that is the best decision for you. Also, we will continue to have color-coded bracelets available to let others know your level of comfort for personal distance. Hybrid attendance at the services will continue to be offered, and we hope that this combination of alternatives provides a level at which all our congregants can feel safe and comfortable.

Effective November 6th, 2022, and until further notice:

- Masks will be optional in all areas of the church.
- All staff and volunteers working with small children under 5 are required to be vaccinated. Vaccinations and boosters are strongly encouraged for everyone in the congregation.
- If volunteers working with small children are aware that at least one of the children in the group is not vaccinated, they should wear a mask when with them
- Due to the community concerns about the "triple threat" of flu, COVID, and RSV, all people with symptoms should stay at home and participate online.

We are proud and appreciative of the way in which our UUCH community has approached the hardships of the COVID pandemic. You all have been respectful of each other, cognizant of the importance of scientific and medical information, and compassionate for those who have been most affected. While we know there are still challenges ahead, we are hopeful and confident that we will meet them with the grace of a beloved community, while keeping our church programs vital and active.