

UUCH COVID-19 Policy (*Revised by Board of Trustees 9/25/2021*)

Out of love and respect for every member of the congregation and in an ongoing effort to promote public safety during the COVID-19 outbreak, the leadership of UUCH has developed the following policy. This policy covers any event or gathering sponsored by a committee or an established part of church ministry (i.e., Hospitality, Social Justice, Soul Circles, Music, RE, etc.), whether at the church or off-site. It also covers any event or gathering on church property, even if not sponsored by one of the aforementioned groups. This policy will remain in effect until amended by the UUCH Board of Trustees.

Building Use

- Due to the risk of community spread of COVID-19, all in-building gatherings are limited, and rentals are postponed until further notice.
- All church events must abide by the *Current COVID-19 Status Tier Chart* (see attached)
- If you have symptoms of COVID-19, please do not come to the church building for any reason.
- In order to retain a safe working environment for all church staff, visitors are required to wear well-fitted masks at all times while in the church building.
- Social distancing is recommended, even while masked.
- We have placed hand sanitizer on a table outside the office. Please use the hand sanitizer before entering the office.
- Please do not plan on using the church bathrooms. (In case of urgency, please use only the restroom in RE Wing, and enter the building one person at a time.)
- Well-fitted masks and facial coverings are required at indoor events.

All Church-Sponsored Events

- No communal singing.
- Food sharing must abide by the *Current COVID-19 Status Tier Chart* (see attached)
- Give thought to accessibility inclusiveness (lawns are often not accessible to wheelchair and walker users).
- When inviting participants, be clear about the inclusion or exclusion of small children and others who might find it hard to observe physical distancing.

Vaccinations

- All staff (employees and contractors) must be vaccinated and provide proof of vaccination.
- All volunteers working with children must be vaccinated.
- Vaccinations and booster vaccinations are strongly encouraged for everyone in the congregation who's eligible.
- Requests for exemptions may be made to the Minister for disability, religious, or medical accommodation (See *UUCH Policy and Procedure Manual* for details).
- Anyone required to be vaccinated must maintain their vaccinations per CDC recommendations.

Our top priority in these times is to keep everyone in our community safe and healthy. Please honor our church covenant by abiding by this church policy, and encourage others to do the same. The church staff is empowered to ask anyone to leave our property if they are unable or unwilling to abide by these safety policies.

Contact Information

- **Office Administrator**, 256-534-0508, uuch@uuch.org
- **Jaimie Dingus, Minister**, 256-534-0508, minister@uuch.org
- **John Schulz, Board President**, 619-961-5000, president@uuch.org

UUCH Current COVID Status Tier Chart (as of September 25, 2021)

Current Status – Red Tier	
Madison County Data¹	Cases/100K: 10+
Worship	<p style="text-align: center;"><i>Worship on Zoom</i> (Worship team allowed in sanctuary during Sunday service)</p>
Music	<p style="text-align: center;"><i>Zoom Only</i> (Worship team allowed in sanctuary during Sunday service)</p>
Children & Youth Religious Education (CYRE) Classes	<p style="text-align: center;"><i>Zoom Only</i></p>
Church Events (Small Groups, Committee Meetings, Large Events, Events with Children)	<p style="text-align: center;"><i>Zoom and/or In-Person</i></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>In Person, Outdoor</i> <i>Up to 15 People (Mask Recommended, Distanced)</i> <i>Over 15 People (Mask Required, Distanced)</i></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>In Person, Indoor</i> <i>Up to 15 People, with consent of the group to meet in person</i> <i>(Masks required, Distanced)</i></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>Food Sharing</i></p> <p><i>Allowed:</i> individually wrapped food and beverages - pre-wrapped meal plates, canned beverages, etc.</p> <p><i>Not allowed:</i> communal containers - e.g., crock pot, beverage pitcher, etc.</p> <p>Masks may be removed during eating or drinking; however, please maintain distance from people not in the same household</p>
Vaccines	<p>All staff (employees and contractors) must be vaccinated and provide proof of vaccination.</p> <p>All volunteers working with children must be vaccinated.</p> <p>Vaccinations and booster vaccinations are strongly encouraged for everyone in the congregation who is eligible.</p>

¹ The numbers used to assess tiers will be the Madison County rates as reported at COVID Act Now:
https://covidactnow.org/us/alabama-al/county/madison_county/?s=1788707