

Our Regathering Plan: Updated May 2021

Have you heard we are beginning to regather in person this summer?

While we celebrate the increased freedoms enjoyed by those of us who are fully vaccinated, we are also aware that our children (age 11 and younger) cannot be vaccinated as of yet and others of us live with health situations that increase our vulnerability.

Caring for the most vulnerable among us is at the heart of God's Gospel. Therefore, with the information released earlier this month by the Center for Disease Control and by Governor Cooper's office, our COVID-19 Task Force has updated our St. John's Regathering Plan to begin our regathering journey in the slow lane. Over time, we will increase our speed (change lanes) as we journey together.

Our changes are as follows:

- We have removed all attendance limits and physical distancing protocols as we begin regathering to worship on June 20.
- We will register on Realm or by calling the church office prior to each Sunday and then have check-in upon arrival using iPad kiosks located outside the sanctuary doors.
- To care for the most vulnerable among us, face coverings are REQUIRED of ALL Sunday worshippers, whether fully vaccinated or not fully vaccinated. This protocol will change as more of our members inform us they have been fully vaccinated and as we move toward autumn and vaccines for children become available.
- Staff and worship leaders will model concern for and solidarity with our children (and others) who cannot receive vaccines yet by always wearing face coverings in worship except when leading our aspects of worship.
- Face coverings will be required at all times for each adult serving in Worship Care in the nursery for young children.
- Face coverings are not required for outdoor gatherings.
- Face coverings are required for all persons in the buildings while on the ground floor due to the presence of children (Weekday School, Head Start, and Freedom School children) who have not yet been able to be vaccinated.
- All groups using or meeting within our facilities (beginning June 1) MUST reserve the space by contacting Jacquelyn McAbee in the church office to assure the space has not already been scheduled (jmcabee@sjcharlotte.org).
- Adult Sunday Growth Groups can meet in person on June 20 or July 11 BUT not on the first floor below the Sanctuary. Those rooms are being used by Freedom School all summer. *Allison will work with each group wanting to meet in scheduling a room.*
- All Sunday Morning Sunday School Ministry Growth Groups will be scheduled to begin gathering on Sunday, September 12.

We are looking forward to regathering!