

A Message from the Re-Opening Task Force November 9, 2021

With the recent decrease in the COVID test positivity rate in Mecklenburg County, many of you are asking when we will be able to gather indoors and share a meal or even better gather in Worship, Sunday School and Bible Studies with masks being optional. Advent, Candlelight Carols, and Christmas Eve services are approaching soon, please see below for updates to our guidelines.

As we make faithful decisions about our Covenant community, we remember we are all called to *love God and love neighbor*. To be true to our call and to protect those in our congregation that are most vulnerable especially our older members, our children ineligible for vaccination and those who are not fully vaccinated - current guidelines will remain in place until January 18, 2022, we ask that masks be worn while attending Worship services or any indoor event.

The request is due to an expected uptick in infections following Thanksgiving and Christmas holidays. Our goal is to make changes only once – we don't want to lift the mask requirement and then have to reinstate should conditions warrant.

As we all know Advent and Christmas Eve services are very important to the Covenant Community. We feel the mask requirement is necessary since seating is on every pew in the Sanctuary and Chapel.

Food Service is now available indoors, limited to 50 participants gathering at any one time/location (following social distancing requirements), with well-spaced tables and limited chairs at each table.

For more detailed information regarding changes our COVID guidelines, visit <https://www.covenantpresby.org/covid-19>

As we move forward in finding “normal”, we are grateful to this congregation for all your prayers and support the past 21 months. We believe the changes we have been able to make to the guidelines since this time last year will be a positive and welcome step as we move forward together. We hope to see you on campus as we begin to celebrate Advent in our community.

Peace & Blessings,

Deana Cooper
Sarah Crowder
Phil Koonce
Bill McNairy

Katie Stewart
Bill Keith
Bob Henderson