

St. Paul COVID-19 building policy

Over the past year, COVID-19 has impacted the way we were able to do ministry at St. Paul. We had to initially stream all of our worship services from outside the building and now are gradually returning to the building for face-to-face worship. All along, we have monitored the Centers For Disease Control (CDC) for guidance. Before vaccines were available, all of us needed the same safe precautions during the pandemic. However, now that vaccines are available and many in our congregation have received them, the CDC guidance is different for vaccinated and unvaccinated people. See the chart at the end of this letter.

As we follow our mission statement, "St. Paul seeks to share the Good News of Jesus Christ by loving and serving all", the word "ALL" includes the vaccinated and the unvaccinated. Your Church Council has spent considerable time trying to balance the desire to return to some normalcy with a desire to recognize that not everyone is ready/able to remove all Covid related precautions.

In light of new guidelines from the Centers for Disease Control (CDC) and after much discussion and prayerful thought, the Church Council has updated the St Paul COVID building policy.

Effective May 27, 2021, the following changes take effect.

1. Based on new guidance from the CDC, wearing of masks in the church building will be optional for those who have been vaccinated. However, CDC recommends that unvaccinated individuals, including children, should continue to wear masks when indoors.
2. Proper social distancing is still encouraged.
3. At the current time, masks are optional for outside singing. As we are stepping back into normalcy, out of an abundance of caution for our children and those who have not been vaccinated, masks are still required for indoor singing.
4. Signing up to attend a worship service using the Flock Note website will no longer be required, but recommended. Use of this website could be used for contact tracing, if needed, or to send information to potential new members.

Your Church Council requests that everyone attending the services and using the building comply with the CDC guidelines as presented. Please respect the individual choices each of us will make as we transition back to pre-COVID worship practices. Item 3 recognizes that singing in the Sanctuary will come back slowly. We will start indoors with masked choral music and will look forward to the time when we can expand singing to the entire congregation. This will eventually happen as all have a chance to get vaccinated, and when the medical community feels there is enough "herd immunity" to return to normal.

Please pray for your leadership as we discern the proper direction for St Paul to share the Good News of Jesus Christ by loving and serving all.

Norman Traub
for the Church Council

Choosing Safer Activities

Accessible link: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/daily-life-coping/participate-in-activities.html>

	Unvaccinated People	Examples of Activities	Fully Vaccinated People
		Outdoor	
Safest		Walk, run, wheelchair roll, or bike outdoors with members of your household	
		Attend a small, outdoor gathering with fully vaccinated family and friends	
		Attend a small, outdoor gathering with fully vaccinated and unvaccinated people	
Less Safe		Dine at an outdoor restaurant with friends from multiple households	
Least Safe		Attend a crowded, outdoor event, like a live performance, parade, or sports event	
		Indoor	
Less Safe		Visit a barber or hair salon	
		Go to an uncrowded, indoor shopping center or museum	
		Attend a small, indoor gathering of fully vaccinated and unvaccinated people from multiple households	
Least Safe		Go to an indoor movie theater	
		Attend a full-capacity worship service	
		Sing in an indoor chorus	
		Eat at an indoor restaurant or bar	
		Participate in an indoor, high intensity exercise class	

Get a COVID-19 vaccine



Prevention measures not needed

Take prevention measures

Wear a mask, stay 6 feet apart, and wash your hands.

- Safety levels assume the recommended prevention measures are followed, both by the individual and the venue (if applicable).
- CDC cannot provide the specific risk level for every activity in every community. It is important to consider your own personal situation and the risk to you, your family, and your community before venturing out.



cdc.gov/coronavirus

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