

COVID Safety Guidelines

(Effective 9/18/2022)

The Parish Committee has approved the following new set of COVID safety guidelines starting September 18, 2022.

Hybrid worship will continue indefinitely and will enable congregants to choose between in-person and remote worship experiences – based on individual preferences.

We recommend that all members of the congregation be fully vaccinated – including boosters as they become available. The scientific data indicate that this is the most important action we can take to keep ourselves and our community safe.

Updated policies for Sunday worship:

- Masks are optional in the meetinghouse. However, masks are required for those who have not been vaccinated. Respect and consideration should be given to all regardless of their masking choice.
- Special requirements for choir members: because of the need for proximity for singers in the choir, vaccines and masks will be required for all active choir members. Soloist may remove masks if singing alone and at a distance from other vocalists. (The Music Director, Music Committee, and the Minister should continue to monitor norms for groups of vocal performers and may recommend changes to Parish Committee).
- Religious exploration classes will resume this fall. Masking protocols at FPM should follow the current guidelines of the Milton Public Schools. Teachers should remind students to be respectful.
- Masks are also optional at Social Hour.

Policies for other church-related activities:

- Indoor meetings may be scheduled through the church office for use of the Parish Hall, Meetinghouse, Activity Room, Chase Parlor, or Children's Church. Covid-related reduced capacity limits are being suspended at this time, and masks are optional. However, it is important that groups be responsible for getting consensus from members of a gathered group about masking. Please respect the needs of any group member who feels safe only when all are masked.
- Air filters should be left on, and a few windows should be opened to allow optimal air ventilation.

We respectfully remind everyone to please stay home if you are feeling sick or have even mild symptoms of illness. For the sake of the community, if you test positive for COVID within 5 days after attending a worship service (or other church event) we request that you inform the office.