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SEVERE-INFECTIOUS-RESPIRATORY-DISEASE RESPONSE PLAN SUMMARY

Approved by the Session, November 21, 2022

In response to the COVID-19 pandemic, previous versions of this plan have provided guidance for accomplishing our mission and ministry in new and safer ways. This revised policy aligns our church’s standards for assessing risk level with Center for Disease Control (CDC) standards for determining COVID-19 Community Levels. In light of the fact that RSV and Influenza are other severe-infectious-respiratory diseases of concern, this revised policy includes a prominent advisory statement: **Anyone suffering from upper respiratory symptoms should not attend in-person worship services, task group meetings or social gatherings, and anyone at increased risk from respiratory diseases should consult their personal medical provider about precautions to reduce their risk when in public.**

Decision Matrix for Assessing Risk Level (CDC)				
New Cases (per 100,000 population in the last 7 days)	Indicator	Low	Medium	High
< 200 cases	New Covid-19 admissions per 100,000 population (7-day total)	< 10.0	10.0 - 19.9	≥ 20.0
	Percent of staffed inpatient beds in use by Covid-19 patients (7-day average)	<10.0%	10.0 - 14.9%	≥ 15.0%
≥ 200 cases	New Covid-19 admissions per 100,000 population (7-day total)	NA	< 10.0	≥ 10.0
	Percent of staffed inpatient beds in use by Covid-19 patients (7-day average)	NA	< 10.0%	≥ 10.0%

Clickable link for county level reporting for Covid-19 Integrated County View Report:

https://covid.cdc.gov/covid-data-tracker/#county-view?list_select_state=Illinois&data-type=Risk&list_select_county=17119

See the following two-page chart for SIRD-Response at community levels green, yellow and orange summarizing the abbreviated impact of the risk levels on church life.

	Low	Medium	High
Face Coverings (recommend N95, KN95, or equivalent mask)	Face coverings are optional for all participants.	Face coverings are optional, with some exceptions. Face coverings are required for those working within 6 feet of unvaccinated minors. Face covering suggested when in the presence of an immuno-compromised individual.	Face coverings are required for all. Exceptions made for fully vaccinated individual leaders with a part in speaking, singing, or playing a non-wind instrument. Or, a fully vaccinated vocalist group of five or less.

Worship			
Worship Space	Seating may be arranged for up to fire code limits, livecast of worship, permanent print materials may be used	Socially distanced seating, livecast of worship, no use of permanent print materials	Socially distanced seating, livecast of worship, no use of permanent print materials
Record of Attendance	Not required	Yes, for potential contact tracing	Yes, for potential contact tracing
Music	All may sing	All may sing with the exceptions listed above	Only fully vaccinated allowed to sing
Sacraments	Communion - distribution of elements by servers. Baptism - yes, with standard practice	Communion - single use bread/juice servings provided Baptism - yes, with special provisions	Communion - single use bread/juice servings provided Baptism - yes, with special provisions
Greeter/Usher	Physical contact allowed with others, offering collection by passing the offering plates, fellowship hour can resume in the Gathering space	No physical contact with others, pre-sanitized offering plate provided, no fellowship hour	No physical contact with others, pre-sanitized offering plate provided, no fellowship hour
Small-Group Gatherings (<25 people)			
Church Related Groups	No face covering required but are optional for all	May meet, face coverings are optional. No face coverings are required if all participants share vaccination status and there is unanimous agreement to not wear masks.	May meet, all must wear a face covering. No face coverings are required if all participants share vaccination status and there is unanimous agreement to not wear face coverings.
Visitors	No face covering required but are optional for all	Encourage social distancing and face covering is optional	Must wear a face covering and maintain social distancing
Appointments with Staff	No face covering required but are optional for all	Meeting without face covering allowed.	Must wear a face covering and maintain social distancing
Ministry to Minors			
Face-to-Face or Virtual	Decided by Ministry Staff or Faith Formation Chairperson	Decided by Ministry Staff or Faith Formation Chairperson	Decided by Ministry Staff or Faith Formation Chairperson
Workers with Youth	Must be vaccinated - no exceptions	Must be vaccinated - no exceptions	Must be vaccinated - no exceptions
Face Coverings	Must wear a face covering if requested by a parent of one of the children.	Must wear a face covering	Must wear a face covering
Employees, Volunteer Leaders, Participants			
	Positive test requires isolation per CDC guidelines	Positive test requires isolation per CDC guidelines	Positive test requires isolation per CDC guidelines
	No contact tracing required.	Positive test - strongly request notification to FPCE for contact tracing	Positive test - strongly request notification to FPCE for contact tracing