

May 18, 2021

Dear Members and Friends of First Presbyterian Church,

Just over a year ago, we, the Elders of our church, voted to close in-person worship. "Surely we will be back by Easter," we hoped. "We will be singing together again by Pentecost at the latest," we said. As the pandemic progressed, social distancing and masking became new norms. When we reopened indoor worship in October, it was without congregational singing.

But now, under the recommendation of the Coronavirus Response Team, we have voted to relax First Presbyterian's health policies. It is with joy and thanksgiving that we bring you this news. The following changes are effective immediately. We are grateful for your patience in the coming weeks as the church committees and staff work to apply these changes across our church's common life.

**Mask Optional:**

- Those who are vaccinated are not required to wear a mask inside or outside of the First Presbyterian Church facilities.
- Those who are unvaccinated are advised to continue to wear masks for their own safety and for the safety of others.

**Distance Optional:**

- Those who are vaccinated are not required to practice social distancing measures inside or outside of the First Presbyterian Church facilities.
- Those who are unvaccinated are advised to continue to practice social distancing (of at least 6 feet) for their own safety and for the safety of others.

**Congregational Singing:**

- Those who are vaccinated are invited to participate in all aspects of congregational speech in worship. This includes congregational singing as well as congregational responses in worship.
- Those who are unvaccinated are advised not to participate in congregational singing or responses for their own safety and for the safety of others.

We indeed are singing together again by Pentecost! While livestream worship will continue, we look forward to singing in worship with you on Pentecost this Sunday. Remember to wear red to celebrate the fire of the Holy Spirit falling afresh upon us just as it did the early Christians in Acts 2.

In Christ's Service,  
The Elders of First Presbyterian Church