

Update from Church Council and Covid-19 Working Group

Over the past year, we have been delighted to re-gather at in-person events while simultaneously maintaining zoom access for most of our activities. We are grateful for the respectful care offered over the past years and grateful for the community's on-going commitment to the safety and well-being of all in our community and beyond.

Beginning after Easter Sunday 2023, First United is adopting practices which recognize that Covid-19 remains a serious illness, while moving beyond previous pandemic protocols.

These practices include:

- Following the recommendation of Public Health in support of keeping our vaccinations for Covid-19 and the flu up to date. Covid-19 vaccines are effective, and the staff of First United keep their vaccinations updated.
- Continuing self-screening. We ask that you not attend in-person gatherings when feeling unwell or experiencing Covid-19 symptoms. This practice is also requested when one has been exposed to someone who has tested positive for Covid. We continue to maintain participation via Zoom.
- Encouraging masking. Public Health continues to recommend the wearing of masks indoors. Masking at in-person events, while voluntary, is encouraged. We mask to reduce risk to ourselves and we respect all those who mask and maintain respectful distancing.
- Maintaining ventilation of spaces for in-person gatherings.
- Adapting our liturgical practices. The Church Council and Sunday Leadership are prayerfully discerning and updating our liturgical practices, with a view of maintaining both the integrity and the safety of these practices.

We will continue to have Zoom services and meet in-person.