

## Shoreline Unitarian Universalist Church

### Covid-19 Policies for use of Church Buildings

Date issued: June 14, 2020 Update concerning choir (Section 1.c.) approved August 21, 2020.

Purpose: This set of policies governs the use of church buildings during the Covid-19 pandemic; its purpose is to limit the spread of the virus. Upon approval, a copy will be placed in the church office, and on the SUUC website.

#### Table of Contents

1. Overall Administrative and Engineering Controls
2. Worship Services
3. Other gatherings of congregants in church buildings
4. Renters
5. Staff
6. Volunteers
7. Staff and Adult Volunteers
8. Housekeeping Guidelines

- 
1. Overall Administrative and Engineering Controls: Adapted from policy approved by Board of Trustees, August 6, 2020.

- a. Masking. All congregants, employees, visitors, and volunteers must be masked while indoors. There are two exceptions: (1) speakers and soloists in the worship service may perform unmasked, and (2) fully vaccinated members of staff and fully vaccinated volunteers working in non-public areas of the buildings may work unmasked. Notification of the masking requirement will be posted at all entrances, and masks will be available for those who arrive without one.
- b. All congregants, employees, visitors, and volunteers are expected to stay home if they feel ill or if they test positive. Everyone who comes to the building is also expected to know the symptoms of Covid infection, and to notify the church office or other appropriate member of the community if they test positive.
- c. Ventilation. Active or passive ventilation will be used wherever possible in church buildings to provide air movement and dilution of airborne viral particles. Air purifiers with HEPA filters have been provided in all large spaces within the buildings. Their regular use is strongly encouraged.

2. Worship Services – approved by the Board of Trustees, November 22, 2021. Modified on January 11, 2022.

- a. All attendees at church services above the age of two must be masked. They need not show proof of vaccination, but when King County recommendations regarding vaccinations change, SUUC will revisit this policy.

- b. Anyone who has attended worship in person who subsequently tests positive must notify the church office and a member of the Board of Trustees, who will take appropriate measures to notify the congregation.
  - c. As of August 21, 2022, the choir will be allowed to sing unmasked during services. The number of singers in the choir is limited to 12. All other masking requirements will remain in place.
- 3. Other gatherings of congregants in church facilities: As of Board of Trustees approval of this policy, congregants assembling in church facilities for gatherings such as social events, committee meetings, and work parties, must remain masked when indoors. One person at a time may unmask in order to speak.
- 4. Renters: Rental groups are expected to follow current King County guidelines for indoor recreational gatherings or religious gatherings, as appropriate. (See rental policy.)
- 5. Staff: Adapted from policy approved by Board of Trustees August 6, 2020. Staff must follow requirements for masking. They are also expected to wash hands with soap and water upon arrival, and frequently while in the workplace. Hand sanitizer will be readily available.
- 6. Volunteers must follow requirements for masking. They are also expected to wash hands with soap and water upon arrival, and frequently while in the workplace. Hand sanitizer will be readily available.
- 7. Staff and adult volunteers working in groups of four or fewer in non-public areas of the church buildings may agree to go without masks.
- 8. Housekeeping Guidelines: Regular housekeeping practices will include routine cleaning and disinfecting of work surfaces, equipment, interior and exterior doors and handles, light switches, and include restrooms and meeting rooms. In the event an employee is diagnosed with Covid, the office will be closed and locked for 24 hours, with appropriate signage posted. Once the 24 hours have elapsed, maintenance will conduct regular cleaning and disinfect all surfaces.

Approved by Covid-19 Task Force: May 14, 2022

Modification concerning choir recommended by Covid Task Force: August 20, 2022