

PRINCE OF PEACE EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH, BANGOR, PA CURRENT COVID PROTOCOLS

Our goal is to create a safe, welcoming worship experience for all people. As faithful stewards of God's Word and responsible members of our community, we encourage all members and visitors to adhere to the CDC guidelines regarding the COVID-19 pandemic. Each individual has a personal responsibility to act according to the current CDC guidelines and Prince of Peace protocols listed here for the health and safety of all.

- Worship is currently held in person on Sundays at 9:45 am.
- Current CDC guidance will be followed for all worship services on the church grounds. Because CDC guidance is ever changing, the most recent CDC guidelines will prevail, despite postings or other protocols at Prince of Peace. CDC guidance **as of January 27 2022:**
 - Vaccinated and unvaccinated members/attendees have the option to remain unmasked indoors.
 - We have begun to sing together again. Masks are required while singing.
 - If any fully vaccinated and boosted individuals who are 18 yrs or older OR vaccinated children ages 5-17 have had a close contact with a COVID positive individual, they are encouraged to self-monitor for COVID symptoms and wear a well-fitting mask around other people in all settings for 10 days. If able, testing should occur on Day 5. Testing should also occur if symptoms of COVID-19 develop at any time during the 10 day post exposure period. Fully vaccinated and boosted individuals who were exposed do not need to quarantine. All exposed individuals should contact their health care provider for further guidance.
 - Unvaccinated individuals, or those who have not completed their vaccine series and/or booster, who have had a close contact with a COVID positive individual must quarantine. These individuals are encouraged to self-monitor for symptoms, self-quarantine at home for 5 days, and wear a well-fitting mask around others in your home or in the community, if it is necessary to leave. If able, get tested on Day 5. Self-monitor for signs of COVID-19 for 10 days and continue to wear a mask around others for 10 days. Testing should also occur if symptoms of COVID-19 develop at any time during the 10 day post exposure period. Individuals should contact their health care provider for further guidance.
 - Individuals who had COVID-19 verified by a viral/PCR test within the last 90 days do not need to quarantine if re-exposed with close contact, however, these individuals must wear a well-fitting mask for 10 days after exposure, including in the building. Testing should also occur if symptoms of COVID-19 develop at any time during the 10 day post exposure period.
 - Per CDC guidance, individuals with known close contact with a COVID positive individual should avoid removing their mask around others and should avoid settings where a mask must be removed.
 - *Important Definitions:* Per the CDC, Day 0 is the last day of exposure to a COVID-19 positive individual. The CDC defines close contact as less than 6 feet

away from a COVID-19 positive person for a total of 15 minutes in a 24 hour period. This could be exposure to one individual or several over a 24 hour period.

- Anyone with the symptoms of COVID, regardless of known or unknown exposure, is encouraged to remain home, self-monitor, and contact their health care provider for guidance on testing and treatment. Anyone who tests positive for COVID-19, should isolate at home and contact their healthcare provider.
- Northampton County is considered an area of low transmission (3/17/2022). Individuals may choose to wear a mask at any time. Those with symptoms of COVID, a positive test or known exposure should wear a mask per the recommendations above.
- Social distancing is encouraged for those in high risk categories.
- Holy Communion is celebrated weekly, in an altered style using pre-packaged communion cups.
- Every effort is made to record the worship service and share it via YouTube. We feel it is important to offer our members choices that allow them to worship and stay safe. This service will be offered as long as time, technology, and talents allow. Sunday worship is generally available on Mondays before noon.

MEETINGS/OTHER EVENTS/STAFF

- Congregation committees, other groups within the congregation (including our chartered BSA Scout groups), and groups that used Prince of Peace for their meetings prior to COVID (Women's Club, Girl Scouts, 4H) may meet in any normal meeting room in the building; there are no scheduling restrictions at this time. Meetings must be scheduled ahead of time with the church office (610-588-2355 or poplcbangor@gmail.com). At the end of the meetings, Groups that meet are responsible to wipe down all surfaces touched, with wipes provided in each room. (Groups may choose to wipe down before meetings as well.)
- Current CDC guidance will be followed by all groups, meetings, and employees on the church grounds. Because CDC guidance is ever changing, the most recent CDC guidelines will prevail, despite postings or other protocols at Prince of Peace. CDC guidance as of **January 27, 2022:**
 - All groups, meetings, and employees will follow the above guidance as listed for attending worship services. Please pay close attention to guidance listed based on an individual's vaccination or booster status and COVID-19 exposure.

The Reopening Task Force and/or the Health and Wellness Committee will be responsible to check the CDC guidelines for updates and changes every month. This interval may change as the COVID pandemic continues to evolve and impact our everyday life. For questions about the CDC guidelines, please contact a member of one of the aforementioned committees. To access the most current CDC guidelines, please visit the CDC website:

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/index.html>

3/21/2022 JLC