



WOODBURY UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

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Rev. J. Michael Cobb, Pastor

The Life of the Church

by

Meg Temple, Lay Leader
Mark Davis, COVID Response Team
January 28, 2022

Dear Church Family,

Jesus said, “This is my commandment that you love one another as I have loved you.” For all of the pain the pandemic has wrought, as a church we have had an opportunity to show our love by doing our best to protect each other. Two weeks ago, you received a letter informing you of continued suspension of in-person services. We are delighted to say that we plan to return to in-person worship on Sunday, February 6, 2022.

Why is it safe to return now? Our COVID response team has carefully re-evaluated our protocols and found that they are more than sufficient to allow us to worship together safely. Community spread is down and COVID tests are now more readily accessible to help distinguish between cold/flu and COVID symptoms. Finally, MIT modeling tools show that we can safely accommodate our max capacity of 75 people if we upgrade to multi-layer surgical or N/KN-95 masks, while continuing our previous safety protocols.

Here is how you can do your part to protect your church family at in-person worship:

1. Pre-register for the service on our website, www.woodburyumc.net.
2. Upgrade your mask to at least a surgical mask. We strongly encourage you wear an N/KN 95 mask for increased protection. Both will be available to anyone who needs one at check-in.
3. If you or a family member is ill, please stay home and continue to enjoy the service online at our website, www.woodburyumc.net, or our YouTube channel at
4. http://www.youtube.com/channel/UCN-kkokTCbVE9urwgP_AEcw.
5. Maintain your distance from other family units after briefly greeting one another.

On the back of this letter, you will find a chart to help you determine when it is safe for you to return to in-person worship after being ill or having been in close contact with someone else who is ill. More educational materials are available on our website at <https://woodburyumc.net/covid-recovery%2Freopening>.

This pandemic has not been easy. We’ve had to be creative, thoughtful, and resilient. Our most important goal is to create conditions to safely worship together. Let us continue to love one another as Jesus has loved us. If you have any questions, concerns or need for support during this time, please contact us or Pastor Michael.

God bless you all,

Meg and Mark

WUMC GUIDANCE: COVID and ATTENDANCE AT WUMC

Feeling ill (any cold, flu or COVID symptom)? Had close contact exposure? Tested Positive? We ask that you do the following before coming to the church. We need to treat any cold or flu symptom as if it were COVID, until a proper test proves otherwise.

What to Do:

IF YOU:	THEN:
<p style="text-align: center;">Had Close Contact with Symptomatic Person</p>	<p>GET COVID TESTED: WHEN?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 5 days after had exposure or Upon becoming symptomatic <p>WHICH TEST?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> If asymptomatic: Then PCR test required If symptomatic: Either PCR or Rapid Antigen test <p>Refrain from attending church worship events (quarantine) for 14 days <u>or</u> until you have a negative test result (or your close contact tests negative), & you are symptom free.</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">Are Symptomatic</p>	<p>Refrain from attending worship and church events for 10 days <u>or</u> until receiving a negative COVID test (PCR or Rapid Antigen test) and you are symptom free.</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">Test Positive</p>	<p>Refrain from attending church worship & events for 10 days (isolate). Report positive test to WUMC's CRT Chair (Mark Davis)</p>

Notes:

Symptomatic: Any cold, flu or COVID symptom

Close Contact Exposure: If you spent 15 minutes or more cumulative time over a 24-hour period within 6-ft of a person who has been diagnosed with COVID or is symptomatic and remains untested (regardless of whether masked or unmasked).