

## **Mexico First UMC Guidelines for Indoor Worship**

March 15, 2021

We rejoice in the opportunity to return to our church building for worship services this spring. Although the pandemic is still ongoing, the availability of a vaccine brings hope. We are continuing to follow the guidelines from NY state and the UNY Conference of the United Methodist Church in order to keep a safe environment.

We realize that some may not be comfortable attending and will continue to offer weekly online worship.

Indoor worship will be held in the sanctuary. It may be chilly, so you may want to dress warmly.

***The most important things you can bring to our gatherings are patience and flexibility.***

- Attendees are required to maintain social distancing of 6-feet at all times, including walking to or from your vehicle and while waiting to be seated.
- Attendees are required to wear masks at all times, even while seated.
- Our Sunday morning service will begin promptly at 10:00 a.m. in the sanctuary. Please use the door on Church Street, which will be unlocked at 9:45. The elevator is available if you need it and can be accessed from the door by the parking lot. Only people requiring the elevator will be admitted through this door.
- When you arrive, we will be recording attendance, taking temperatures, and asking people to respond to three questions. (1) Have you had COVID-19 symptoms in the past 14 days? (2) Have you tested positive for COVID-19 in the past 14 days? (3) Have you come in close contact with a confirmed or suspected COVID-19 case in the past 14 days?
- If you answer yes to any of the questions or your temperature is higher than 100 degrees, you will be asked to leave. We ask that you be cooperative if this occurs.
- If you feel ill or even suspect you are not well on Sunday morning, please stay home.
- After you have checked in, follow the arrows to an open pew. Only family units may sit together.
- Some pews have been blocked off to maintain social distancing.
- Services will be no more than 30 minutes in length. While we will have some instrumental music, there will be no congregational singing.
- Please immediately leave the building when service has concluded. You are welcome to greet each other outside.
- Offering plates will be available at the front and back of the sanctuary to deposit your offering when you arrive or depart. We will not be passing offering plates during the service. You may continue to mail your tithes and offerings to the church at PO Box 255, Mexico, NY 13114
- Only the sanctuary will be open. The rest of the building is still closed.
- Thank you for your cooperation during this challenging time.