

The Session has made a few adjustments to the reopening protocols. The continuing reduction of COVID cases and hospitalizations in our area, the recommendations of local health officials, and the efficacy of the vaccinations allow these changes to be made:

- Masks will be optional for those vaccinated throughout the building, including during worship.
- People who are unvaccinated are encouraged to wear masks while in the building.
- People will still be checked-in on Sunday mornings for contact tracing purposes.
- Social distanced seating in the sanctuary will be maintained for the time being.
- The building will be opened to outside groups.
- Children's church and nursery are targeted to resume in September.
- Choir will begin practicing in-person in August and return in-person to worship in September.
- Adult Sunday School will resume in-person class on June 27, 2021.
- Fellowship will continue to be outside and there will be no coffee served inside the building.
- There will be no changes to offering, communion and passing the peace at this time.

As we get closer to September, and if the trends continue in a positive direction, I think we can look forward to additional changes. Thank you to everyone for respecting and following the protocols. Your patience and flexibility have been wonderful! To those who feel safer wearing a mask, please do so. We will respect and support your wishes and desires.

It is good to emerge from fifteen months of pandemic. Although, it is also somewhat unsettling. We have been on high alert for so long, it is natural to have some feelings and concern as we reenter our new normal. Be patient with yourself; be patient with others. Grief is a long process. Let's also keep in prayer the families and friends of the over 600,000 Americans who have died from COVID, and the over 3.8 million people worldwide who have died. While we are in a better place than we were, COVID is not done with us.

I hope to see you soon for Sunday worship, in-person or via Facebook Live or YouTube.

Let's continue to choose love and compassion, do justice, make peace, be kind, persevere in prayer as we glorify God, grow disciples, and meet the needs of our neighbors.

In Christ's Love,  
Pastor Ken