

# WALNUT GROVE UMC CAMPUS COVID-19 GUIDELINES

Revised 2/2021

During the COVID-19 pandemic, we as a church want to continue to offer praises to the Lord as well as maintain safety for His people. Our Methodist founder, John Wesley, preached the message of "Do no harm" to ourselves or others. In following this directive, you are encouraged to follow the guidelines approved by our COVID-19 Taskforce\* which is comprised of 2-3 members each from the Trustees Committee, Health Ministry Committee and church staff/pastor.

The guidelines below follow the Centers for Disease Control (CDC), North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services (NCDHHS), Orange County Health Department (OCHD) and United Methodist Conference recommendations for safety as we continue to worship and fellowship together.

## WHEN ENTERING THE BUILDING

### 1) **Wear a mask covering the nose and mouth at all times**

Masks are available on the table in the Fellowship Hall if you need one.

### 2) **Wash/sanitize hands**

Hand sanitizer stations are in 2 locations

a. as you enter the Fellowship Hall

b. and as you enter the hallway by the bathrooms near the outside kitchen door

### 3) **Maintain 6 feet distance from others**

## OUTDOOR EVENTS, MEETINGS AND GATHERINGS

All outdoor activities on church grounds must be scheduled through the Administrative Assistant's office at 919-732-5722. Requests will be reviewed and approved collectively by the COVID-19 Taskforce and must meet current CDC, NCDHHS and OCHD COVID-19 safety guidelines. Below is information on how the various types of gatherings may be conducted.

### **Events**

Drive-thru events (i.e., graduation recognition, live nativity, food distribution, etc.) may be organized with approved safety guidelines observed. Masks are required.

### **Meetings**

All meetings are held outside (weather permitting) or online. Masks are required for outside meetings.

### **Playground**

All groups of children playing together must wear masks and attempt to stay 6 feet apart.

### **Funerals**

Funeral services will be graveside only. Drive-thru visitation may be scheduled. Masks are required for both.

### **Weddings**

Weddings will be outdoors only with prior approval. A drive thru wedding shower may be scheduled. Masks are required for both.

## DRIVE-IN WORSHIP SERVICES

Outdoor services take place in the parking lot near the modular building. Enter from Walnut Grove Church Road on the driveway closest to the woods. If it is a service with communion, a pre-packaged cup/wafer will be received from Amanda and/or assistants.

**Ways to hear:**

- 1) stay in your car and use your car radio to listen to the service
- 2) sit outside in front of your car (Bring a lawn chair.)

**Masks should be worn when:**

- 1) You are sitting outside the car
- 2) You are sitting in the car and the windows are down

If you need a mask, request one from Amanda and/or assistants.

**Hearing the service:**

- 1) If you stay in the car, use the FM channel on your car radio. The channel number will be posted on the porch AND listed near the top of the bulletin. You may sing in your car only.
- 2) If you sit outside, sit toward the middle of the parking space area in front of the car. Remain approximately 6 feet from the person(s) in the adjacent parking space. Humming only.

**Bathroom visits:**

- 1) We recommend that you take a bathroom break prior to leaving home. Our bathroom hallway is very narrow and will not permit us to keep a social distance of 6 feet.
- 2) One person should be coming in and out at a time.

**After the service/Offering:**

- 1) Exit the parking lot on the Hawkins Road side.
- 2) A container for the offering will be placed near the exit to use as you leave.
- 3) If you speak to others after the service, wear a mask and maintain a social distance of 6 feet.

**INDOOR CLEANING AND DISINFECTION PRACTICES\***

- 1) Wear disposable or reusable cleaning gloves when cleaning and wash hands when finished.
- 2) Clean any dirty surfaces using soap and water first, then use disinfectant.
- 3) Routinely clean high touch surfaces (i.e., tables, door knobs, door handles, light switches, countertops, toilets, faucets, sinks, etc.) with an EPA-approved disinfectant for COVID-19.
- 4) Follow instructions on the label for safe and effective use of the disinfectant (Different products have varying amounts of time required to remain on surfaces before wiping off.)
- 5) Cleaning of computer screens, keyboards, phones, and other non-porous surfaces may be cleaned using soap and water followed by use of the UV-C sanitizing wand.

\*From the "Cleaning and Disinfecting Your Facility" section of the CDC Recommendations on COVID-19

**STAFF EXPECTATIONS**

- 1) Follow guidelines inside and outside of the building (i.e., wearing a mask, washing/sanitizing hands, social distancing)
- 2) If staff have an unexpected non-work-related exposure, the CDC-recommended quarantine period will apply
- 3) Initiate health questions and temperature checks during group events (i.e., musicians/singers/tech assistants for worship services)