

WALNUT GROVE UMC CAMPUS COVID-19 GUIDELINES

Updated 7/1/2021

History

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 Walnut Grove UMC COVID Taskforce. The guidelines 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.

Current Status

Recently, the CDC and NCDHHS issued new guidance for safety measures for protection against COVID-19. Taking these recommendations into consideration, we have made the following changes to our indoor and outdoor campus safety guidelines. In determining these guidelines, several factors were kept in mind:

- 1) North Carolina and Orange County cases of COVID-19 are continuing on a downward trend.

As of July 1, 2021,

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| 2) % of North Carolina population partially vaccinated is: | 56% |
| % of North Carolina population fully vaccinated is | 53% |
| 3) % of Orange County population partially vaccinated is: | 64% |
| % of Orange County population fully vaccinated is: | 62% |

WORSHIP SERVICES

Worship services are held in-person in the Sanctuary and Fellowship Hall. Each service is conducted live in the Sanctuary and may be viewed via live-streaming in the Fellowship Hall. Pews are roped off in the Sanctuary and chairs are spaced out in the Fellowship Hall for physical distancing purposes.

Before the Service

- 1) Two entrances may be used: 1) front door of the church and 2) main door of the fellowship hall.
- 2) For services with communion, a pre-packaged cup with grape juice and a wafer (on top) will be given to you by the greeter.
- 3) Offering plates/baskets are available at each entrance/exit.
- 4) Hand sanitizer stations are available at each entrance/exit.

Masks/Face coverings

- 1) If you are worshipping in the Sanctuary, a mask is required for everyone. Children are encouraged to attend this service. (Masks are available at both entry/exit doors.)
- 2) If you are worshipping in the Fellowship Hall, a mask is OPTIONAL if you are FULLY vaccinated. (2 shots of Pfizer/Moderna or 1 shot of Johnson & Johnson)
- 3) If you are worshipping in the Sanctuary or Fellowship Hall and are NOT fully vaccinated, a mask is required.

After the Service

- 1) Everyone is requested to remain seated until your row is dismissed by the usher.
- 2) Everyone is encouraged to go outside to fellowship with each other.
- 3) Offering plates/baskets are available at each entrance/exit.

INDOOR MEETINGS & GATHERINGS

Scheduling Meetings/Gatherings

All activities on church grounds should be scheduled through the church secretary's office at 919-732-5722. Building use requests for any meetings/gatherings outside of the routine church sponsored ones, will be reviewed and approved by church staff and/or COVID Taskforce members as needed. All must meet current CDC, NCDHHS and OCHD COVID-19 safety guidelines.

Indoor Meetings/Gatherings of Church Sponsored Groups

Meetings/gatherings may resume activities with adherence to the "Masks/Face Coverings", "Other Safety Measures" and "Cleaning and Disinfection" sections listed below. Below are examples of these groups.

- 1) Covenant Council, Ministry Team, SPRC, Finance, Trustees, Worship, COVID Taskforce, etc.
- 2) Mary Martha Busy Ladies, UMW, WG Prayers & Squares, WG Crafters, etc.
- 3) UMYF, KidsKrew and other children and youth gatherings
- 4) Musicians/singers – traditional & contemporary musicians/singers for Sunday
- 5) Sunday School classes

Currently, potentially large gatherings such as showers, receptions, reunions, etc. are not being scheduled in the Fellowship Hall at this time. The COVID Taskforce will revisit this decision at our July meeting.

Outdoor Meetings/Gatherings of Church-sponsored Groups

Meetings/gatherings may continue activities with masks OPTIONAL for adults and children.

Masks/Face Coverings for Meetings/Gatherings

- 1) If you are FULLY vaccinated a mask is not required indoors or outdoors.
- 2) If you are NOT fully vaccinated you need to wear a mask indoors. Masks are not required outdoors.
- 3) If you are attending an indoor meeting/gathering where children are present, a mask is required.
- 4) Children and youth must wear masks indoors. Masks are OPTIONAL outdoors.

Other Safety Measures

- 1) Hand sanitizer stations are available at each entrance/exit.
- 2) After meetings/gatherings, surfaces used should be cleaned with an EPA-approved disinfectant as outlined in the "Cleaning and Disinfection" section below.

Use of Kitchen and Fellowship Hall Tables/Chairs

- 1) "Masks/Face Coverings" and "Other Safety Measures" guidelines as listed above must be followed.
- 2) After use, clean surfaces following the "Cleaning and Disinfection Practices" section. An EPA-approved disinfectant (Lysol or other approved cleaner) is located on the back counter in the kitchen.

Weddings

No weddings are being scheduled at this time.

Funerals

Funeral services may occur in the Sanctuary. Physical distancing is recommended. Masks/face coverings guidelines are as follows:

- 1) If you are FULLY vaccinated a mask is not required.
- 2) Those persons who are NOT fully vaccinated, including children, need to wear a mask.
- 3) Attendees are encouraged to go outside immediately following the service for fellowship.
- 4) No large gatherings or events (i.e., receptions, dinners, etc.) are permitted in the Fellowship Hall at this time.

CLEANING AND DISINFECTION PRACTICES

- 1) Wear disposable gloves when cleaning and wash hands when finished.
- 2) Clean kitchen surfaces using soap and water first, then spray an EPA-approved disinfectant for COVID-19 according to product directions. (i.e., leave disinfectant on surface as directed – will be anywhere from 1 to 10 minutes, before wiping off)
- 3) The EPA-approved disinfectant (Lysol or other approved cleaner) is labeled "For Kitchen Use" located on the back counter in the kitchen.
- 4) Clean other surfaces (i.e., tables, chairs) with disinfectant as above
- 5) Clean computer screens, keyboards, phones, and other non-porous surfaces using soap and water (if indicated) followed by use of the UV-C sanitizing wand. (This is primarily for staff and Sunday techs.)

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