

May 19, 2022

Dear First United Methodist Church family,

We have been enjoying 2 months of low COVID-19 numbers for Dauphin County. Unfortunately, cases and hospitalizations are on the rise again. While Dauphin County remains in the low/green level as determined by the CDC, the positivity rate is now above 13%. Details on the CDC Community Levels guidance from February 2022, which are determined by numbers of cases plus hospital admission data, may be found [HERE](#).

In anticipation of our region most likely entering medium/yellow or even high/red levels in the upcoming weeks, we would like to review our guidelines for gathering at First UMC.

**CDC Community Level = Green (Low)**

- **Masks optional for all indoor gatherings**

**CDC Community Level = Yellow (Medium)**

- **Masks required for large group gatherings, such as Sunday worship**
- **Masks optional for small group gatherings**

**CDC Community Level = Red (High)**

- **Masks required for all indoor gatherings**

We continue to encourage those who are high risk for severe disease from COVID-19 (unvaccinated, elderly, or with underlying health problems) to wear masks during worship gatherings for their own protection regardless of the current level of transmission.

Please follow CDC recommendations if you were exposed to COVID, have a positive test, or have symptoms. CDC guidelines for quarantine and isolation can be found [HERE](#).

**As stated in the opening, we are currently in “Green/Low” level, so masks are still optional. We will monitor the situation and communicate whenever a change in status occurs.**

In Christ,

The First UMC Staff