

COVID-19 Policies

This is a living document that provides a framework for our life together as a congregation during the pandemic. If you have any questions or feedback, please let council know by contacting the church office by phone or email. Thank you for being an important part of this community. The policies within this document are effective March 1, 2022, and apply to all gatherings and church business.

Face Coverings:

- Face coverings are recommended but not required at all times in the building except:
 - 8am service: masks will be required.
 - choir members will be masked while singing and instrumentalists will take proper precautions.
 - Those assisting pastoral acts that are unable to distance shall be masked
 - Those ministering to children under five years old shall be masked
- Please consider wearing a mask if you are in a small group setting and masks are requested by someone in the group.
- During the times when masks are required, face coverings may be removed when actively eating or drinking and during the celebration of Holy Communion. Pastors may remove face coverings when actively leading worship.

Other Precautions in Place:

- Signs are posted with current precautions.
- At the welcome stations there are supplies available such as: hand sanitizer, face coverings, offering collection, bulletins, etc....
- During worship, please be respectful of other people's space, particularly during the passing of the peace, and singing may be limited.
- Enhanced cleaning and sanitizing may take place between gatherings.
- Indoor ventilation is improved by using air purifiers.
- Leaders of gatherings at the church
 - shall schedule the gathering with church office, so we can clean and sanitize,
 - shall communicate our policies at the start of each gathering,
 - may stop the gathering and excuse all participants if participants are not willing to follow our policies.
- Food received in the building will be served using precautions, not buffet style.
- We ask that you please:
 - keep your hands clean and follow good hygiene,
 - Please use our online or at home worship options if you or anyone in your household is ill or if you are uncomfortable with an in-person service
 - Please use our online worship or at home worship options if you are quarantined or have tested positive for COVID-19 in the past 14 days.
 - If a person who was in our building tests positive, and notifies us, we will make the congregation aware of the situation using electronic communication
 - If an employee or volunteer is exposed, they must quarantine following health department guidelines.

Faith Evangelical Lutheran Church Adopted: February 22, 2022

References and Resources

Southeast Iowa Synod
<https://seiasynod.org/covid-19/>

ELCA
<https://www.elca.org/publichealth>

Iowa department of public health weekly report:
www.idpb.iowa.gov/Emerging-Health-Issues/Novel-Coronavirus/COVID-19-Reporting

CDC COVID-19 information:
<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-nCoV/index.html>

American Choral Directors Association
<https://acda.org/resources-for-choral-professionals-during-a-pandemic>