

Middletown United Methodist Church
COVID Protocols
Effective March 7, 2022

The Middletown United Methodist Church family, and especially the Leadership Team, has spent a great deal of time in prayer and careful consideration regarding how we will continue to serve our God and our neighbor in a COVID safe and controlled manner. We have been advised by our Bishop and conference leadership and it has been made clear that our regional and global leadership is prioritizing safety and does not wish for a single transmission of COVID to be attributed to our church activity. We want to share the Gospel and not COVID.

If you are **feeling ill**, please stay home. If you are **waiting on test results** from a COVID test, please stay home until you have received the negative test result. If you have received a **positive test result** from a COVID test, please stay home until your medical professional has stated that it is safe for you to return, even if you have no symptoms. If you test positive for a COVID test and have attended any church activities (or activities within the church property) please let us know for the sake of contact tracing.

Please note the following:

-Masks: Masks are no longer required within the church building. Everyone is asked to continue to be safe and make your own personal decision pertaining to wearing a mask. Please be respectful of everyone's individual decision.

-Social Distancing: Please be aware of social distancing. Just as some people may choose to continue to wear a mask, some people may choose to continue to be socially distant.

-Hand Sanitizer: Hand sanitizer will continue to be made available and everyone is asked to continue to use it frequently.

-Within the sanctuary: One area of the sanctuary will be set aside for those who want to be a bit more careful and continue to wear a mask. This one section will be reserved for those who desire to wear a mask and sit near those who are wearing a mask. We ask that people respect this area and allow those masked in this section to leave the service first.

-Vaccine: We encourage everyone to seriously consider being vaccinated for COVID. Please talk to your medical professional about receiving the vaccine.

Just as COVID is a living virus, this document is also a living document. The Leadership team appreciates your patience as statements within this document will need to change. Please continue to visit the church's website, Facebook page, and the Weekly Communicator for the most recent updates.