

The SWUU Board of Trustees adopted the recommendations of the Re-opening Task Force at its July 13, 2021, meeting. Task Force members were Deb Celinski, Ellen Hansen-Ellis, Jenni Papp, Dan Paxson, and Judy White. The Task Force developed its recommendations after extensive study on the UUA website and after reviewing the plans of several other churches. Thank you to each of you for working on this vital task!

Basically, the plan involves tracking data on the CDC website for Cuyahoga, Medina, and Summit counties and linking that data to various levels of risk which will allow for different levels of church activities and interaction and appropriate preventative measures to try to ensure the protection of the most vulnerable among us. This data will be shared with the Minister and Board President who will jointly make the decision when a change in activity level is required due to increased or diminished risk.

**Small group meetings and worship services may be held in the church building beginning in AUGUST at Level 2 YELLOW, as long as that level of risk holds steady. If the CDC reports increased Covid risk, we will use the risk level prevailing at that time.**

No plan can be considered 100% safe. Each individual must make decisions based on their own health and the health of their family. **Attendance at any church service or activity is at your own risk.**

CDC alert level	Description	Allowed Activities	Restrictions
Level 5 RED	More than 100 cases per 100K	Virtual only	Access to the church limited to staff & designated individuals only
Level 4 ORANGE	50-99 cases per 100K	Small group in-person meetings, virtual worship & RE	Small group defined as less than 10 with 6 ft. spacing, masks required.
Level 3 YELLOW	30-49 cases per 100K	Small group in-person meetings, hybrid worship, limited hybrid RE & childcare (provider vaccinated)	Small group (see above). 40-person capacity for worship <b>with sign-up required</b> . 6 ft spacing, no fellowship hour, no choir, quiet singing, masks required. Childcare toddlers/infants only. RE in Fellowship Hall only, no use of small classrooms, 6 ft. spacing, masks required. RE limit 10 people.

Level 2 YELLOW	10-29 cases per 100K	In-person meetings, Full worship w/hybrid option, fellowship hour, choir, quiet singing. Childcare (provider vaccinated). Limited hybrid RE in Fellowship Hall.	No masks required for in-person meetings of less than 10 people. Masks required for worship & fellowship hour (no food or beverages served). No use of small classrooms. Six foot spacing and masks required for RE.
Level 1 BLUE	Less than 10 cases per 100K	Full worship, no spacing requirements, Zoom option will continue to be offered. Coffee hour with snacks, RE	Masks optional

**PLEASE NOTE:** At Level 3 YELLOW when in-person capacity is limited to 40 for worship, advance sign up will be required. More information on this procedure will be available soon. The Membership Committee is working on this and designing an honor system to allow for attendance on a rotating basis. We want to ensure that everyone has an equal chance to attend services at least once a month.

The Task Force recommendations are more conservative than what currently prevails in the business and private sector. This is by design. We are a Covenantal faith community that values inclusion and collective care. We take seriously our responsibility to prioritize the safety of our whole community. We will not create situations that force those at higher risk to publicly identify themselves. We will also not be checking vaccination status although we strongly encourage all members, friends, and visitors to be fully vaccinated and to stay at home if they are sick.

**Risk levels will be reported in the Thursday and Saturday email blasts.** If you are not currently signed up to receive these email blasts, please email Dodi Lettus ([dlettus@gmail.com](mailto:dlettus@gmail.com)) to be put on the list. **We will NOT be using the SWUList for this purpose.**

We will also be looking at whether or not it is possible to put the risk level on the SWUU webpage and have it updated consistently.

Because children under 12 cannot currently be vaccinated against Covid-19, we are discussing with parents what options would be most appropriate for RE until such time as all children can

be vaccinated. RE volunteers will be required to be vaccinated and special forms will be used to certify that both youth and volunteers are symptom free before engaging in RE activities.

Your patience and cooperation are appreciated as we continue to work through this process. We all want to be back together again in our lovely building. But we face many challenges that larger churches in newer buildings do not. Let's work together to keep SWUU a vibrant, inclusive community!

## Reopening Agreement

In gathering together, we promise to:

- Gain consent before touching or hugging others
- Follow the protocols outlined in the guidelines adopted by the Board, such as mask-wearing and social distancing, as required
- Find ways to be inclusive of all who cannot be vaccinated
- Give and accept reminders to the agreement with grace and kindness
- Prioritize the safety of the whole community over our own sense of what is safe for ourselves
- Assume good intentions, but policies and this agreement will guide our actions
- Respect the decisions of the people making policies
- Not attend in-person gatherings if we are not feeling well, or if not vaccinated and have been exposed to Covid-19

CDC website used to track data <https://COVID.cdc.gov/COVID-data-tracker/#county-view>

If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact me at [dlettus@gmail.com](mailto:dlettus@gmail.com) or by phone at 440-773-5786.

Thank you!

Dodi Lettus  
SWUU Board President