

AMUMC COVID SAFETY GUIDELINES
Effective March 13, 2022

Sanctuary:

- Worship will be in the sanctuary at 8:30 and 10:30 AM. Facebook live streaming of the 10:30 service will continue, with the video archived for later viewing.
- Anyone who is not feeling well or who has been exposed to a person diagnosed with COVID-19 should stay at home.
- The 8:30 service will use bulletin inserts for hymns to avoid the use of hymnals (which cannot be properly sanitized between services).
- Portable HEPA filtration units will be placed around the sanctuary, along with a humidifier unit to increase the effectiveness of the filters.
- Worshipers are asked to sign in at the greeter's station.
- We encourage all worshipers to wear a mask in order to keep themselves and other safe. Masks will be available at the greeter's table for those who do not have one.
- Upon arrival, Sunday school children will go directly to class rather than being dismissed from worship.
- Small bottles of hand sanitizer will be located in each pew.
- A minimum distance of three feet should be maintained at all times between persons from different households.
- Hearing enhancement devices will be sanitized by ushers before and after use.
- Plexiglas barriers will continue to separate the two sides of the center pews
- Collection plates will not be passed, but a collection box will be available where people can drop their offering on their way out.
- When Communion is celebrated, individually sealed elements will be distributed as people arrive. Worshipers will remain in their pews for Communion. We ask that empty packaging be placed in a trash receptacle at the back of the sanctuary when leaving worship.
- Because numerous studies have shown that singing (vs. speaking) significantly increases the spread of aerosolized virus, we ask that all worshipers wear a mask while singing. Those who do not wish to wear a mask are asked to refrain from singing or to hum.
- During worship, the liturgist and preacher may remove their masks to speak.
- Masks will be worn by choir members while singing, both during practice and in worship. A HEPA unit will be used in the chancel area during worship services when the choir is singing.
- Coffee hour will take place in Cargill Hall following the 10:30 service, with intake and exhaust fans in the windows for ventilation. Hand sanitizer will be made available. People are asked to maintain a 3 foot distance from persons not in their household.
- All services and events in the sanctuary (including funerals, etc.) are expected to abide by the safety guidelines listed above.

Other Rooms:

- While in use, all rooms must be properly ventilated (i.e., HEPA filter running or open window with exhaust fan).

Outside Group Building Use:

- The use of masks is encouraged.
- A minimum distance of three feet should be maintained at all times between persons from different households.
- Proper ventilation must be maintained (i.e., open windows/exhaust fans in Cargill Hall; running HEPA filters in all other rooms). There are HEPA filters in the library and the vestry which may be relocated to other spaces as needed and returned when leaving.
- All spaces used must be disinfected after use with the fogger.