

Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Northern Chautauqua
Companionship on life's sacred journey

UUCNC COVID POLICY, amended November 8, 2021

The following policy is put in place by the UUCNC Executive Board effective December 1, 2021, and will be in effect at least through the end of December. This replaces all previous policies. Any change in our COVID policy will be decided by the 15th of the month before the month in which it will take effect. The UUCNC COVID policy is informed by the UUA guidelines on gatherings and the Delta variant:

<https://www.uua.org/leadership/library/delta-guidance>

1. **VACCINATE!** All members and friends are strongly encouraged to get vaccinated if you have not already done so. Anyone unvaccinated is strongly encouraged to participate only virtually.
2. **RESOURCE** We will use <https://covidactnow.com> as our source of data when making decisions about when it is safe to resume activities.
 - a. <https://covidactnow.com> has multiple levels of community risk of transmission: severe, very high, high, medium and low. (As of November 8, 2021, Chautauqua County was at “very high.”)
 - b. A group appointed by the board will monitor trends in the risk level in Chautauqua and neighboring counties, to help anticipate when it will be possible or necessary to go to a different level of restrictions.
3. **WORSHIP** Sunday morning and other worship services will continue to be held via Zoom. Some of the content, such as the sermon, readings and musical sections may emanate from the building once the technological components are in place and have been tested, provided the air filtration system is operating and carbon dioxide levels are monitored.
 - a. Number of in-building participants should be limited to only those creating the service.
 - b. Masks need to be worn unless speaking on camera.
 - c. Up to 8 persons total (vaccinated and masked) may speak, and up to 4 of them (vaccinated and masked) may sing together in the building during services.
4. **INSIDE SMALL GROUPS** Small groups of up to eight people may meet in person in the building, provided that all have been vaccinated and there is an option for remote participation, such as via zoom, for any group member not willing or able to attend in person.
 - a. Participants should wear masks.
 - b. The air filtration system must be operating, and carbon dioxide levels must be monitored.
 - c. This section also applies to indoor work parties.
5. **OUTSIDE SMALL GROUPS** Small groups of up to 20 adults may meet in person on the grounds outside.
 - a. Wearing masks is optional.
 - b. At least three feet of distancing should be maintained.
 - c. Participants should bring their own chairs; tables and chairs from the building are not to be taken outside.
6. **INDIVIDUALS** needing solo access to the building for congregational business are not required to wear masks.
7. **WORK PARTIES** Participants doing outdoor work on the buildings and grounds are not required to wear masks while outdoors; however, at least six feet of social distancing should be maintained from others.
8. **FOOD AND BEVERAGES** should not be served at any function; however, participants may bring their own water bottles or other beverage. Hosts may offer non-communal beverages.
9. **SIGN IN** Everyone entering the building should continue to sign in and out in the notebook provided.
10. **STAY HOME IF** No one should participate in any in-person gathering if not feeling well, experiencing any symptoms of COVID-19, or who thinks they may have been exposed to someone who may be infected.
11. **SCHEDULING** Groups should schedule any use of the building or the Zoom account with Wendy Westwood or Janey Wagner to avoid multiple groups at the campus or on Zoom at the same time. Email them directly or use the Contact Us form at www.uucnc.org, and your message will be relayed.