

COVID-19 Safety Policy for the Unitarian Universalist Church of Akron

Fall 2020 Revision

Large religious gatherings have been among the biggest super-spreading events. With this in mind, Sunday services will continue to be held on the internet via Zoom for the foreseeable future. We also encourage the continued use of Zoom for committee meetings and many other types of events, as this provides the best accessibility to all our members at the lowest risk. This does not apply to the preschool, only church and rental events.

- **Location:** Events may be held outdoors on the church campus or at other locations (parks, etc.). These policies apply to all church events regardless of location.
- **Scheduling & Building Access:** All events on the church campus **must** be scheduled through Carolyn Stevens at office@uuakron.org or 330-836-2206. The building may be accessed for use of the restrooms or shelter (see below), but this should be kept to a minimum. Event organizers should remember to arrange to unlock the building.
- **Group Size:** Groups meeting **indoors** should be no more than **10 people** per the state recommendation. Groups meeting outdoors are encouraged to take into consideration the space required to distance themselves appropriately.
- **Safety during the event:**
 - Any event taking place at the church must:
 - Take attendees' temperature using a touchless thermometer (provided by the church)
 - Ask the health history questions and obtain at least one form of contact for contact tracing (forms provided by church; completed forms to be left in the kit when you return it)
 - Require masks for all participants, worn over the nose and mouth. (Rare exceptions may be had for medical reasons)
 - Provide hand sanitizer for participants

- Require 6' distances between people of different households.
For hikes, a rope with knots spaced at 6' apart can assist with maintaining distancing while walking.
 - o There will be no singing or playing wind instruments indoors.
Outdoor singing or wind instruments must be accompanied by a space of at least 6 feet between singers and done while masked.
- **Shelter:**
 - o Outdoor events may use the porch at the main entry, the "band tent" at the back of the building (approximately 12' x 20'), or the 9'x 9' pop-up tent in the back shed by the kitchen door.
 - o Groups of no more than 20 people have the option to move into Hannah Hall in the event of thunderstorms, snowstorms, or excessive temperatures.
 - o Consider carefully the time of day with regards to the weather and temperatures forecasted.
- **Seating:** Participants should bring their own outdoor seating. We discourage people from bringing seating to share with others as this would provide a contamination opportunity.
- **Food and drinks:** No food or drinks should be consumed on premise, as masks are required at all times. Food and drinks may be prepared and offered to-go.
- **Duration of Events:** Events should last no more than 2 hours, and 1.5 hours is preferable, to minimize the need for participants to use the restrooms inside the building.
- **Outdoor handwashing:** Participants should use the handwashing station by the Food Justice Garden for non-restroom related washing.
- **Restroom Use:**
 - o Doors to the restrooms will be propped open to minimize the surfaces touched and to maximize the air circulation in the rooms.
 - o Occupancy of the restrooms should be limited to one person at a time.
- **Signs will be posted in restrooms and other handwashing stations regarding 20 second washing instructions.**

Supplies to be available at the church:

Health History and Contact Tracing questionnaire

Touchless thermometer

Hand Sanitizer
Masks
Tape measure
Heavy string (to create a spacing grid in the grass)
Scissors (to cut string)
Tent stakes (for anchoring string)
Soap at outdoor handwashing station
Pop up tent and band tent
Seating- in limited quantities when requested

Development: These policies have been developed recognizing the recommendations of the Unitarian Universalist Association and in consultation with UUCA physician members Jeff Archinal, M.D., pediatrician; Libby Archinal, M.D., family physician; and Andy Culver, D.O., emergency medicine; as well as with Rev. Tim Temerson; Rev Kate Landis; Abby L'Bert, Director of Religious Education; Carolyn Stevens, Church Administrator and RE assistant; Brittney Gustavel, sexton; and Dan Marksz, our Building and Grounds Trustee. These policies will be updated periodically as conditions develop and additional information becomes available.

Revision	Date Approved
Summer 2020 v1.0	6/10/2020
Fall 2020 v1.0	N/A
Fall 2020 v2.0	10/28/2020