

## Main Street UMC

### M.A.P. (Mitigation Assistance Plan) – Updated 7/5/21

After plans are approved by your Church Leadership Team/Church Council, please submit your plans to your District Superintendent for review at least two weeks prior to the date of implementation.

**Name of Church:** Main Street United Methodist Church

**Submission Date:** July 12, 2021

**Implementation Date:** July 18, 2021

Updates are in blue.

In most cases, the church's overall mitigation practices will apply to all activities held on church property, or sponsored by the church. Please share your mitigation plans below and provide additional details for any activities that may deviate from these plans, or require additional information.

The mitigation plans listed below apply to the following gatherings/ministries/activities:

Mitigation plans listed below apply to all activities held in or on church property.

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**1. HYGIENE Minimum standards:** Encourage and provide for frequent hand hygiene (hand washing, sanitizer and helpful signage); continue to sanitize high-touch areas, especially with consecutive worship services/activities in the same space. (<https://www.cdc.gov/handwashing/when-how-handwashing.html>).

**We will provide for this by:**

Signs will be posted in all rest rooms encouraging hand washing or use of hand sanitizer. High touch areas in rest rooms, the sanctuary and other rooms will be sanitized after use.

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**2. PHYSICAL DISTANCING Minimum standards:** Even though physical distancing requirements have been relaxed, distancing may still be appropriate, especially if indoors, unmasked, in a crowded public space, or in congregant settings where the vaccination status of others may be unknown;

**We will provide for this by:**

Due to very low COVID-19 transmission rates in our community, we will no longer require physical distancing. However, we will maintain some physical distancing pews for those that wish to maintain physical distancing. We will resume passing an offering plate. At this time, communion will continue to be offered using pre-packaged elements.

For children's activities, standards established for the Pre-School will apply. We will resume offering van transportation for those needing it to attend worship services. Physical distancing will not be required on the van, but the driver and all riders must wear masks.

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**3. MASKS Minimum standards:** Masks are no longer required

for fully vaccinated persons indoors or outdoors. Masks are still appropriate when physical distancing cannot be maintained or in congregant settings where persons from multiple households are gathered. Congregations that are considering unmasking indoors may want to consider those in their church family who are not yet vaccinated, including youth and children, and guests or others in attendance whose vaccination status may be unknown.

**We will provide for this by:**

We will post signs requesting that attendees who have not been vaccinated wear a mask for indoor services and events. Masks can be removed to receive prepackaged Communion elements. However, no one will be required to provide proof of vaccination. Masks will be required for everyone traveling in our church van.

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**4. SCREENING Minimum standards:** Stay home when sick; self-check in at the door with a health acknowledgement poster. This link provides a [download of a Health Acknowledgment poster](#) that can be edited for your use.

**We will provide for this by:**

We will ask all attendees to read and affirm the questions on the Health Acknowledgement poster at the church entrance. All attendees will be requested to register their attendance.

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**5. LIMIT EXPOSURE Minimum standards:**

Churches should try to gather outdoors whenever possible. When gathering indoors consider:

1. the total amount of time where groups are gathered indoors in any one gathering space;
2. the number of people gathered in one space. It is preferable to use larger spaces over smaller ones for all indoor gatherings.

**We will provide for this by:**

We will require meeting organizers to ensure that spaces designated for a meeting are of sufficient size and communicate to attendees that unvaccinated people should follow CDC guidelines regarding masking and distancing.

We will encourage meeting organizers to limit meeting time for indoor meetings to one hour, if possible.

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**6. VENTILATION Minimum standards:** Maximize airflow

and turnover of air in the occupied space: 6 exchanges per hour is recommended; prioritize outdoor activities whenever possible <https://doc.vaumc.org/News2020/Ventilationrecommendations.pdf>

**We will provide for this by:**

We will use the exhaust fan with open windows (weather permitting) for services or meetings in the Sanctuary. In other rooms, we will use available HVAC systems, when occupied, and will open windows

when weather permits.

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**Please list below any details for specific gatherings/ministries/activities that require additional information or are not included in the above:**

Meeting sponsors will be responsible for adhering to the requirements above. [Sponsors will record the names of attendees, and will address screening and CDC guidelines on masking and social distancing at the beginning of each meeting.](#) At the end of each meeting, sponsors will ensure that any open windows have been closed, that exhaust fans or HVAC systems turned on for the meeting have been properly secured, and that appropriate sanitation has been accomplished or arranged.

We will continue to review and revise the MAP in the weeks and months to come based on local COVID case and test positivity rates. [Social events that include food and drink may be allowed if positivity rates continue to be acceptably low.](#)

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**Please submit your Mitigation Assistance Plan for District Superintendent's review at least two weeks prior to implementation. Contact your District office for more information on how to submit the plan.**

[Approved by Church Council 7/9/21](#)