

Guide For Returning to In-Person Gatherings

Trinity United Methodist Church

Bowling Green, Ohio

adopted 7/20/2020

Phase 1: (Level 3-Red County Alert- new active cases reported in Wood County)

- At the discretion of the Pastor and the Administrative Council, worship may be held, weather pending, either online or in the parking lot (drive-in worship) at TUMC. Masks or face coverings will be required for those who are serving outside of their cars during the worship service. Worship will continue to be live streamed online for those who cannot attend.
- The Administrative Council, individual committees, and other small groups (10 people or fewer) may meet in-person in the fellowship hall, the Royal Builders room, or the library/conference room, spaced six feet apart, with face-coverings required.
- No outside groups or organizations will be permitted to use the church for any purpose.
- Those who are immunocompromised or elderly are encouraged to continue to stay home and engage online.

Phase 2: (Level 2 - Orange County Alert- after a decline in cases in Wood County)

- At the discretion of the Pastor and the Administrative Council, worship may be held in-person in the sanctuary or in the parking lot (drive-in worship). With family groups sitting together and the congregation spaced in socially distant seating. Masks or face coverings will be required.
- There will be no congregational singing or spoken response.
- There will be no nursery care provided.
- Junior worship will take place.
- Small groups (less than 10) may meet in-person in the fellowship hall, the sanctuary, or other classrooms in the church, spaced six feet apart, with face-coverings required.
- No outside groups or organizations will be permitted to use the church for any purpose.
- Those who are most at-risk, including the immunocompromised and those over 70, are encouraged to evaluate the risks and engage online as much as possible.

Phase 3: (Level 1 - Yellow County Alert- (after 1 month of sustained decline in cases in Wood County)

- Worship will be held in-person, without seating restrictions. Face coverings will be requested.
- There will be no congregational singing or spoken response.

- Small groups and Sunday School classes may meet in the classrooms while practicing social distancing.
- Nursery may open for children age 3 and under.
- Groups larger than 15 encouraged to use larger spaces – either outdoors or the basement/sanctuary, and encourage face-coverings.
- No outside groups or organizations will be permitted to use the church for any purpose.
- Those who are most at-risk, including the immunocompromised and those over 70, are encouraged to evaluate the risks and engage online as much as possible.

Phase 4: (No County Alerts) - (a vaccine or 95% effective treatment option is widely available)

- No restrictions, face coverings are optional, worship will be held in the sanctuary, groups and classes may meet in classrooms.
- Outside groups or organizations will be permitted use the church on a case by case basis according to our building use policies set forth by the trustees.

Please note: Should Wood County rise to a “Level 4 - Purple County Alert” we will celebrate worship online. The church office will close, Pastor Andrea and the staff will work remotely.

State and local masking ordinances will supersede any requirements in this document.

Members and congregants of Trinity United Methodist Church are invited and encouraged to participate in worship and community to the level of their comfort. We have enhanced our print communications and connections as well as our virtual communications. If you need assistance connecting with these, please let us know by contacting the church office. Many aspects of worship and connection can be found by accessing our website at www.bgtrinity.org.