



FAQ's for Returning to In-Person Worship

When and where will in-person worship take place?



In-person worship will take place weekly on Saturday afternoons from 4:30-5pm. Pre-registered congregants will be admitted beginning at 4:15pm through FUMC's Church Street entry.

What will happen when I arrive?



Upon arrival, please remain in your vehicle until 4:15pm. Congregants will be required to sanitize their hands and have temperatures checked. Upon building entry, congregants will be ushered individually or by household to a designated seating area in the sanctuary. Service begins promptly at 4:30pm. For complete details on the entry process upon arrival at FUMC, see FUMC's Protocols and Guidelines for Church Building Use and In-Person Events.

What is the process for leaving? Will we have fellowship time?



Congregants will be excused and directed out of the sanctuary and building to Hinman Street at the end of the service. Service concludes at 5pm. Ushers and signage will be present throughout to direct people where to go. In the interest of keeping each other comfortable and safe, there will not be fellowship time at this time. Coffee, water and snacks will not be provided.

Will I need to wear a mask?



In accordance with FUMC's general guidelines for participants at all church events, congregants over the age of two must wear masks or cloth face coverings and maintain physical distance (at least 6 feet) from people outside of their household for the duration of in-person worship.

Why and how do I "pre-register"?



Congregants/households must register online for in-person worship at least 48 hours in advance with FUMC's Save-a-Seat pre-registration app. This allows the worship team to safely make physically distant seating arrangements with ample time, prior to the service. Registration will close 48 hours in advance of worship or once reservations meet the 50-person capacity. All people, friends, visitors and members alike are

welcome to register. Pre-registration will afford easy contact tracing. See Appendix F on pre-registration in FUMC's Protocols and Guidelines for Church Building Use and In-Person Events.

What about children?



Children are invited and encouraged to attend. However, children of all ages must remain with their households at all times. The nursery is closed and Children's Sunday school offerings will continue virtually for the time being as we work to care for and protect our youngest and oldest disciples alike. Children are required to follow all general guidelines, though children under the age of two are not required to wear a mask or face covering. The church will not provide activity bags for children.

What can I expect from the service? Will there be music?



The service will be a 30-minute stand alone service with a Sermon and a liturgy adapted from the United Methodist Church's *An Order For Evening Praise and Prayer* (UMH 878). Singing is prohibited. Humming, clapping of hands and stomping of feet is encouraged. Passing of the Peace will be performed with nods, bows and appropriate hand gestures. There will be no bulletins, no welcome folders, no hymn books, and no offertory plates. Offering will continue to be taken online and is strongly encouraged. The evening service will be video recorded, and some of the segments will be used in the Virtual Worship Service on Sunday morning.

Will the restrooms be open?



Yes. For the duration of in-person worship, restroom access will be increased to no more than the number of closed fixtures (urinals will not be used) in the restroom. All persons must remain masked, refrain from conversation, and minimize touching of common surfaces. The restrooms cannot logistically be cleaned between individuals. If you use a restroom, you assume an added risk that you must balance against the need to use the restroom.

Will Holy Communion be served?



No. The Senior Pastor has been charged with exploring ways communion can be safely offered to the congregation observing FUMC's guidelines.

See a complete list of general protocols and protocols by event type in FUMC's Protocols and Guidelines for Church Building Use and In-Person Events [here](#).