

Hello friends,

On Tuesday night our Emergency Planning Team met to re-evaluate our procedures regarding occupancy limits and masks in our facilities during use. The group was in consensus to bring our re-opening plan into agreement with the state guidelines and CDC recommendations. Here is an overview of what we have updated and what it means for us.

1. We are still encouraging all who are able to, to receive a vaccine against the COVID-19 virus.
2. KFUMC will be using the Washington State Business guidelines as our standard. What that means for us is that if you are two weeks or more past receiving the full dose of the COVID-19 vaccine, you will not be required to wear a mask while attending worship or other events at the church's facilities. We are trusting each person's truthfulness and honor and will not be inquiring about your "vaccine status." We will assume (I know what happens when we assume... let's prove that saying wrong!) that if you are not wearing a mask during worship or other events inside the building that you have been fully vaccinated. We trust that if you have not been vaccinated that you will consider the safety and risk to others and please wear a mask when inside the facilities. (We will continue to have masks available at the entrance for those who have not been vaccinated or for those who just wish to wear one as a precaution for the sake of others.)
3. We will increase the maximum occupancy of our facility to 50% capacity (from 25%) and ask that you socially distance at a minimum of three feet from one another.
4. There will continue to be hand sanitizer stations at the entrance to the sanctuary and we encourage you to use them and wash your hands often.
5. We will continue to ask that you don't linger in the building after the event has concluded, and we are continuing to ask that we refrain from "Congregational Singing" for the time being. We ask that you continue to sign in when you come to worship, so we can keep track of occupancy limits and have a contact tracing record in case it becomes necessary. We will continue to follow our cleaning guidelines for wiping down "high touch" surfaces with sanitizer and limit access to the building when events are not in progress.

These new protocols will be taking affect this Sunday (June 6.) As always, if you feel for the sake of others, you would rather wear a mask when gathering, please feel free to do so.

United Methodist Camps!

For years Kennewick First has supported the Twinlow United Methodist Camp as well as the other camps in our Conference. Camps are happening this summer with a few changes to their operating procedures and sleeping arrangements. As a way of supporting our camps and our campers, Kennewick First will be offering a 75% campership to any child or youth attending a United Methodist Camp this summer. If you would like to donate to the camper-ship fund, you can put that donation in an envelope this Sunday, and drop it in the donation box.

Summer Office Hours

Beginning Monday, June 7th, the Church Office will be open for our Summer Office Hours. Those hours are 8 am to Noon, Monday through Friday.

Joe Kuhns' Memorial Service

There will be a memorial service for Joe Kuhns at Desert Lawn, 1401 S. Union at 10th Avenue on **June 12th at 3 pm** with an outdoor memorial following here at the church back lawn at 4 pm.

See you in church my friends!

Pastor Mark