

UCM Covid-19 Task Force Final Minutes
Twenty-third meeting 10/19/21

Present: Allen Clark, Liza Earle-Centers, Vic Guadagno, Scott Hess (facilitating), Judith Hinds (recording), Rev. Joan, Cass Madison, Jen Matthews, Leslie Parr, Janet Poeton, Donia Prince, Verdis Robinson, Noah Sexton, Peter Thoms, Meredith Warner.

Agenda:

- Changes to minutes of 10/7/21
- Changes to the agenda
- Comments/feedback from church members/community/Board/ET
- Air quality and AV updates (Allen)
- Changes/exceptions to reopening guidelines
- Singing guidelines
- Other business
- Next meeting

1. Changes to Minutes

None.

2. Changes to the Agenda

None.

3. Feedback/Comments from Others

Meredith reported that the Board, ET and Air Quality Project Team recently revised the charge to the AQP Team. She wondered if it would be helpful for us to redefine our charge via a similar collaborative process. Has our role changed since we received our initial charge from the ET? Who are the actual members now? Are all important constituencies within UCM represented? Is consensus still the best decision-making model? If we were to vote, who should have a vote? No one voiced any strong opinions about this issue. Joan will ask the ET if they feel any change is needed.

4. Air Quality/AV Project Update

The team has received nearly-final engineers' drawings. Clarifications and final design are in process. The team is applying for necessary permits and working on bid proposals. The AV group is making progress. We can expect the vestry to be a construction site for a number of days or weeks during the major work. Since the new system can be installed without disturbing the air ducts, asbestos removal can wait until a later phase of the project, i.e. it no longer has to be done first.

6. Reopening Guidelines

Ref. Link: [May 4, 2021 Reopening Guidelines](#).

There seems to be general agreement that the first criterion we chose for Phase One, i.e. daily new cases at or below 1 in 100,000 in VT, is unrealistic. Should we change it or eliminate it? What is the best metric to use? Cass and Jen offered to research this question. They will check in with John to see what materials he researched when we drafted these guidelines back in the spring. There is no way to predict what a winter with vaccinations will yield in terms of metrics.

Should we make exceptions to the guidelines in the short term? The ET has made a list of potential exceptions, but it was sent only to Scott. Since the rest of us haven't seen it, we will defer it until the next meeting. The role of the TF will be to help set conditions around the exceptions.

7. Singing Guidelines

We looked at the 4-point policy that the choir has been using this summer and fall: well-fitting masks, 6-foot distancing, air rate exchange of at least 3 ACH, and sessions limited to 30 minutes. We recommend adopting this 4-point plan as UCM's general policy for indoor group singing. We did not get into the other parts of the 1/4/21 draft singing guidelines because they may overlap with the next discussion of reopening guidelines and exceptions.

8. Other Business

What if a congregant or staff member tests positive? Joan will email us a sample policy from another UU church related to this question. The subject may need its own policy.

9. Next Meeting: **Wednesday, Nov. 3rd, at 5:00.** (Note different time and day of week!)