

UCM Covid-19 Task Force Final Minutes
Thirty-fifth meeting 4/14/22

Present: Liza Earle-Centers, Scott Hess (facilitating), Judith Hinds (recording), Rev. Joan, Jen Matthews, Leslie Parr, Janet Poeton, Donia Prince, Peter Thoms.

Agenda:

- Changes to minutes of 3/31/22
- Changes to the agenda
- Feedback from Board, ET, congregation, other groups
- Report from MT mtg on safety protocols for building/services
- Soloists in service; other music and choir matters
- Vaccination vs. natural immunity; second booster?
- Reopening guidelines – non-worship meetings
- Reopening guidelines – stages yellow and green
- List/map of most important topics going forward
 - after ventilation is in place
 - group activities
 - outdoor guidelines
- Other business
- Review of topics for next meeting
- Next meeting

1. Changes to Minutes

Joan made some changes to Janet's minutes of 3/31/22. Scott will send us the newer version. Final version must be submitted to Claudia for the website.

2. Changes to the Agenda

Joan asked us to reassess the TF's purpose and mandate. We spent most of the meeting on this question, occasionally touching on other agenda items. See item 10, Other Business, below.

3. Feedback from Board, ET, Congregation, Other Groups

The ET reviewed our recommendation from 3/17/22 to accept hybrid immunity in lieu of a Covid booster. They were unable to make a decision and asked us for more information and/or the rationale for our recommendation. There is no clear-cut answer to this question – the science is too new and no one knows for sure how long hybrid immunity lasts vs. how long booster immunity lasts. Judith will do more research with VDOH and other sources and report back.

4. Report from MT Mtg on Safety Protocols

Not discussed.

5. Soloists and Other Music Matters

Only briefly touched on – will be a question on next mtg's agenda.

6. Vaccination vs. Natural Immunity/Boosters

See item 3 above.

7. Reopening Guidelines – Non-Worship Mtgs
Not discussed.

8. Reopening Guidelines – Yellow and Green
Not discussed directly. See comment about metrics under item 10 below.

9. List/Map of Most Important Topics Going Forward
- What mitigations, if any, will still be needed once the ventilation system is in place?
Not discussed. May be a question for next meeting.
- What about group activities?
Not discussed. May be a question for next meeting.
- Do outdoor guidelines need to be revised?
Janet and Liza will review them and make recommendations.

10. Other Business
What should be the TF's purpose and mandate now, in circumstances very different from when it was created two years ago? Does the ET still need the TF? What specifically do they need from us? Should the TF go dormant unless asked for some specific task? What questions still need to be addressed? Which areas of church life still need guidance, and which ones have enough clarity to proceed? What guidance needs to be in place for next fall?
Metrics are becoming less reliable as at-home testing increases and agencies publish fewer data. Should we therefore abandon our color-coded guidelines? If so, then what?
What does the congregation want? (Not really a question for the TF.)
We decided to focus our next meeting on specific questions that still need our attention, such as who should sing where and when. Therefore ... see item 11 below.

11. Topics for Next Meeting
Everyone should submit their specific questions to Scott before he forms the agenda for the next meeting, preferably with proposed answers/solutions.

12. Next Meeting: Thursday 4/28/22, **5:15** PM.