



Northern Illinois Conference

The United Methodist Church

Guidelines for Congregational Singing Post-Covid 19

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June, 2021

1. According to the CDC and science, singing in worship is safe as long as you have been fully vaccinated for two weeks.
2. If not vaccinated, worshippers should wear a mask and follow social distancing guidelines.
3. Deciding to offer music can be gradual or all at once. Like removing a Band-Aid, you can remove it quickly or decide to go slowly. Consideration should be given for the congregation's specific needs and sensitivities.
4. Not everyone in the sanctuary will be vaccinated. Children, under the age of 12 are not yet approved for vaccination and are vulnerable to the virus.
5. Some people will be slow in moving away from wearing a mask. Taking a slow approach to reintroducing singing in worship will offer a welcoming atmosphere and hospitality.
6. You might wish to ease into congregational singing, fewer hymns or softly singing until everyone becomes comfortable with the experience.

For example: St. Charles: Baker Memorial has decided to do the following. There will be 8 social distanced singers who will still wear masks and provide music as the congregation eases into fuller congregational singing over time.