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COVID 19 Guidelines

March 12, 2022

Based on King County Guidelines, and recommendations from the Northwest Washington Synod, and diligent conversation among our team, we are recommending the following COVID safety guidelines be put in place for our congregation, Our Redeemer's Lutheran Church in Seattle.

1. Per King County guidance, **indoor masking is no longer required** at Our Redeemer's as of Saturday, March 12, with the two following stipulations:

1. Anyone who wants to wear a mask, or needs to wear a mask is more than welcome to continue to do so without shame and without question.
2. If you are in close proximity with children under 5, particularly in our Sprouts and O-Rock classes, you are requested to mask at all times. In worship, we as a community will continue to do our best to create spaces where people can physically distance from others if they need or choose to as well.

2. To protect the youngest and most vulnerable among us, we ask that **if you choose to participate in person at Our Redeemer's, you are fully vaccinated** (if you are able to receive it). If you have chosen not to be vaccinated, we ask you join us virtually, and to refrain from participating in in-person events and services.

3. **We will continue to have daily contact tracing logs in the narthex for everyone who enters the building** to sign in – name and phone number. In the event of a reported COVID case, we will contact everyone who was in the building on that day. These logs are not shared with anyone and are still considered due diligence during this pandemic for our congregation.

The Pandemic Transition Team will continue to monitor the situation in our area, and if the need arises, quickly revise our guidelines to reflect the most appropriate safety measures. We are mindful that we have people of all ages and health situations in our congregation, and are trusting in the research, work, and diligence of the professionals who make recommendations for our health and safety, as well as our own prayerful and informed discussion. If you have questions about what has changed, please don't hesitate to reach out to our team.

Peace to you,

Pastor Gretchen Mertes, Parish Administrator Karie Stearns, Sam Altenberger, Barbara Dougherty, Michael Hammett, Betsy McGregor, Julie Vannoy, and Kim Ward-Barowicz

