

## Updated Covid-19 Guidelines: December 2021

*As we continue to monitor the current health situation and guidance from the CDC and local health authorities, RCB has moved to a “Phase 2” reopening. We will continually review the situation and be prepared to pivot as necessary.*

### Sunday Worship and All Visits to the Church

- **Beginning December 13, 2021, in response to Governor Hochul’s mask mandate, all worshippers, regardless of vaccination status, are required to wear a face covering at all times.** (Since we do not check vaccination records of the general public, everyone must wear a mask.)
- Open pews toward the front of the Sanctuary are available for vaccinated congregants. Those who are unvaccinated are asked to sit in the socially distanced, staggered pews in the back two-thirds of the Sanctuary.
- **Anyone entering Church buildings at any time—including staff, contractors, and visitors—must wear a mask at all times when indoors.**

### Church Staff and Regular Program Volunteers (Including adult choir members, Church School teachers, and on-site program leaders)

- All church staff are required to be vaccinated or be tested once per week (proof required).
- All volunteer choir members and instrumentalists, as well as professional musicians, are required to be vaccinated (proof required). Masks and social distancing are required in rehearsals and public performance.
- Any regularly participating on-site volunteer—for example, ushers or youth group support volunteers (see below)—is required to be vaccinated (proof required).

### Children and Youth Programs, Including Choirs and Youth Groups

- All Church School teachers and support volunteers working with children and youth are required to be vaccinated (proof required).

- Middle School Youth Group, High School Youth Group, and Fourth & Fifth Grade Ministries will meet outdoors whenever possible.
- Any youth group participant not vaccinated, including children under 12, is required to wear a mask and social distance both inside and outside.
- When meeting indoors, program leaders and regular volunteers working with children and youth in any program are required to be masked regardless of vaccination status. (For youth group volunteers only, when meeting outdoors masking is optional.)
- All youth choir members 12 and older are required to be vaccinated. In addition, masks and social distancing are required in rehearsals and public performance.

### **Community Groups**

- The Church is gradually opening to outside community groups, though for now space usage is restricted to Congregational Hall on weeknights and weekends when Church programs are not meeting there.