

GNUUC Outdoor Gathering Policy

Background

As vaccination rates increase and as epidemiologists learn more about the nature of COVID-19 transmission outdoors, it is becoming possible to consider limited in-person gatherings again at Greater Nashville UU Congregation. Vaccinations in Nashville are widely available and highly effective. Rates of outdoor transmission, given appropriate physical distancing, are exceedingly low. Consequently, the mental health benefits of human companionship takes on increasing urgency. This policy provides congregational teams with guidelines for hosting limited in-person outdoor gatherings.

Stakeholders

In drawing up this policy, the Board consulted guidance provided by the Unitarian Universalist Association (UUA), the Buildings and Grounds Team, the Worship Team, the Children's RE Team, and the Women's Covenant Group. Each of these groups has important insights to share. Before issuing the final policy, the Board circulated a draft for congregational input.

Policy

1. In-person outdoor gatherings are now permitted on the campus of the Greater Nashville UU Congregation in accordance with Davidson County Public Health Orders.
2. Gatherings will be hosted by one of the GNUUC ministry teams. The hosting team will be responsible for compliance with this policy.
3. Hosting teams will coordinate with Kris Thresher and the communications team to promote the gathering and manage RSVPs.
4. Each team will choose a point of contact who will assure that guidelines are followed and confirm everyone in attendance is included on a sign up sheet.
5. Restroom facilities will be made available and will be kept open and well ventilated.
6. Attendees will not be asked to disclose their vaccination status and being fully vaccinated is not a prerequisite for attendance at gatherings.
7. Masks are required when appropriate social distancing cannot be maintained.

Guidelines for Mask Wearing Outdoors

1. Outdoors plus distance: no mask is required
2. Outdoors plus no distance: masks required

Accountability

The team hosting the gathering has primary responsibility for compliance with the policy. The Board will revise this policy as we continue to learn more about COVID-19 transmission. The Building and Grounds team will confer with the hosting team after the gathering and provide feedback to the Board as needed to improve the policy.

Communications Team

Kris Thresher
Kristin Reveal
Rev. Denise Gyauch

References

Interim Public Health Recommendations for Fully Vaccinated People

Updated May 13, 2021 (Retrieved May 13, 2021)

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/vaccines/fully-vaccinated-guidance.html>

Guidance for Wearing Masks: Help Slow the Spread of COVID-19

Updated April 19, 2021 (Retrieved May 13, 2021)

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/prevent-getting-sick/cloth-face-cover-guidance.html>

Nashville COVID-19 Response: Public Health Orders

Retrieved May 13, 2021

<https://www.asafenashville.org/public-health-orders/>

UUA Guidance on Gathering In-Person When COVID-19 Subsides

Updated April 15, 2021 (Retrieved April 22, 2021)

<https://www.uua.org/safe/pandemics/gathering-guidance>

Unitarian Universalist Church in Reston

UUCR COVID-19 GUIDELINES FOR CHURCH-SPONSORED OUTDOOR GATHERINGS AND CLASSES

Updated April 14, 2021 (Retrieved April 22, 2021)

<https://www.uureston.org/covid>

UUA Guidance for Outdoor Gatherings During COVID-19

Updated 5/12/2021 (Retrieved May 13, 2021)

<https://www.uua.org/safe/pandemics/gathering-guidance/outdoor-gatherings>

UUA Online and/or In-Person? Guiding Questions

(Retrieved April 22, 2021)

<https://www.uua.org/safe/pandemics/gathering-guidance/guiding-questions>

UUA Sources for Accurate COVID-19 Prevalence and Prevention Data

(Retrieved April 22, 2021)

<https://www.uua.org/safe/pandemics/gathering-guidance/covid-19-data-sources>