

Faith Evangelical Lutheran Church  
Proposed COVID response  
March 21,2022

**Proposal:**

Faith Evangelical Lutheran Church will become a mask choice congregation.

**Worship Services:**

- Online services will continue
- Return to singing as deemed appropriate by the worship committee ● Offerings continue to be collected in the back of the church. ● Sharing of the peace will remain distant.
- Communion will continue to be served from the side of the altar as during COVID.
- Request for seating that is distant from the congregation will be honored as able
- After service, the receiving line will resume at the discretion of the minister. ● Coffee and....will resume after church.

**Church activities:**

- Faith formation will follow the guidelines of the local schools. Mask optional, if test positive for COVID, 5 days quarantine followed by 5 days of mask wearing.
- Food may be served at gatherings .
  - Together time, Faith sewers, Wine and Word and Lunch Bunch will all be mask choice activities.
- Funerals, weddings or other church gatherings will be a mask choice event ● Outside groups using the church will follow the guidelines of their organization.
- No limits on the amount of people gathering

**Evaluation:** Ongoing monitoring of the current COVID cases in Walworth and surrounding counties will occur. If the level of COVID threat increases the council will re-evaluate these guidelines.

**Education:** The congregation will be provided with education and updates regarding COVID.

## **Covid education for the congregation**

COVID numbers are decreasing, we are returning to some aspects of “pre-COVID” life and we are now learning how to navigate the “endemic”.

Faith Evangelical Lutheran Church is becoming a mask choice congregation. Mask choice means exactly as it sounds. People are encouraged to wear or not wear masks as their personal choice. Each person’s choice will be honored and respected. Persons who would be more comfortable being seated more distant from the congregation should notify the church to arrange for this accommodation.

Vaccinations continue to offer protection from major illness from COVID. The following link will provide information regarding vaccine and vaccination clinics

<https://www.co.walworth.wi.us/896/COVID-19-Vaccine-Information>

If you feel you may have symptoms of COVID (new cough, shortness of breath, fever, loss of smell or taste, fatigue, sore throat, congestion, runny nose, muscle aches, headache) please get tested. Testing sites located in Walworth county are listed at this link

<https://www.co.walworth.wi.us/873/Testing-Information>

At home testing kits can be obtained free of charge at:

<https://www.covidtests.gov/>

There are some very practical things that can continue to be done to keep our congregation safe from COVID

- Wash and sanitize hands often
- Do not attend services or activities if you are not feeling well • If you test positive for COVID, please follow your doctor’s advice regarding isolation.
- Children under 5 are unable at this time to receive vaccines, please be mindful of this and limit your contact with our littlest members.

COVID is, if anything, always changing. The council will continue to monitor the number of COVID cases and adjust precautions accordingly. If anyone has problems or questions obtaining a vaccine, home test or finding a test site, please contact Laurie Collins 262-949-3169 for assistance.