

# First Congregational Church of Long Beach

## Covid-19 Church Policies and Procedures

### Members and Guest

#### Sunday Church Service

- We will not verify vaccination status to attend church service. Because of this, masks will continue to be a requirement inside the Sanctuary and inside any buildings on the church campus, both pre and post church service, no matter the vaccination status. Diaconate is to ensure that all attendees that enter the church campus are wearing masks and wearing them properly (covering both mouth and nose). Diaconate will provide a mask if an attendee does not have one.
- Masks are required during the service and must be fully covering your nose and mouth throughout service except for the following exceptions:
  - Ministers and presenters may remove masks when speaking (Ministers and presenters must be fully vaccinated individuals). Ministers and presenters should resume wearing masks after speaking.
  - Soloists may remove masks while performing their solos. Soloists should resume wearing masks after performing.
  - Mask can be removed to receive communion and all attendees should resume wearing masks after they are finished with communion.
- *Update: Passing of the Peace* should be done at the comfort level of the individual and those they are interacting with. During the *Passing of the Peace*, it is acceptable to give a hug (both parties masked), do a fist or elbow bump, hold up the peace sign or a nice wave across the Sanctuary.
- Church attendees may sing from the pews with their masks on.

## **Post-Church Service**

- On Sundays for events immediately following church services where vaccination have not been verified, masks are required and must be worn while indoors regardless of the vaccination status of the individual.

## **Meetings, Gatherings and Events**

There are different options available to organizers regarding the requirement of wearing masks indoors. The different options are based on the verification of vaccination/booster status of individuals working and/or attending the meeting, gathering or event. Masks are not required while outdoors or while actively eating or drinking indoors.

### **How to obtain Proof of Vaccination.**

- Proof of vaccination means being fully vaccinated and boosted based on the State of California recommendation for the individual.
- Church members can provide verbal proof that they are vaccinated/boosted for meetings, gatherings and events that are mainly attended by the congregation.
- Community events sponsored by the church and held indoors at the church will require all attendees to show proof of vaccination, including church members.
- Vaccination proof can be a picture or actual vaccination card, or electronic verification issued by government agencies.

### **No Proof of Vaccination**

- If proof of vaccination is not obtained for an indoor event, masks will be required by all individuals regardless of vaccination status.

## **Proof of Vaccination**

- If proof of vaccination is obtained for an indoor meeting, gathering, or event, masks are not required while indoors, but are highly recommended.
- Organizer can choose to verify vaccination and still require attendees to wear masks inside.
- Organizers of an event may choose to admit attendees who do not have proof of vaccination or who have not been vaccinated. These attendees ***must*** wear a mask while indoors and it is strongly encouraged that the masks be an N95 or KN95 mask.
  - If organizers do choose to let attendees in who don't have proof of vaccination or have not been fully vaccinated, they must post signage or make announcements that some attendees may be attending who are not fully vaccinated or don't have proof of vaccination and that those attendees are required to wear a mask while indoors.

## **Choir Performances and Rehearsals**

- All Choir members must be fully vaccinated.
- Masks are required during rehearsals and all performances indoors.
- Soloists may remove masks while performing their solos. Soloists should resume wearing masks after performing.

## **Tenants**

- Tenants on the church campus should have their own COVID-19 policy and procedures, and this policy and procedures should be provided to the Business Manager and the COVID-19 Ad-Hoc Committee for review.