



## Statement Regarding Coronavirus

Updated September 1, 2021

Hello New Life Church!

As summer is coming to an end and we anticipate more people will return to worshipping in-person, we wanted to inform you of our ongoing efforts to provide a safe environment in which we can gather together for worship.

At the time of the writing of this letter, the CDC strongly recommends the wearing of masks to slow the spread of COVID-19. They recommend that the following people wear masks: "People, including children older than 2, who are not fully vaccinated; Fully vaccinated people with weakened immune systems; To maximize protection from the Delta variant and prevent possibly spreading it to others, fully vaccinated people should wear a mask indoors in public if you are in an area of substantial or high transmission." At this time, Ulster County is "an area of high transmission," and according to County Executive Pat Ryan and the Ulster County Health Department wearing masks is "strongly encouraged" but not mandated.

With these recommendations in mind, we kindly ask all attending our Sunday services in-person to observe the following:

- We will not ask you to verify your vaccination status...we're operating on the "honor system."
- Fully vaccinated individuals are not required to wear masks and social distance, but you are welcome to do so as it is strongly recommended.
- Unvaccinated individuals are strongly encouraged to wear masks, except when seated, and maintain 6 feet of social distance.
- The main sanctuary will offer sections of "full capacity" seating and socially distanced seating.
  - The middle section will be "full capacity" (rows will not be 6 feet apart, and empty chairs do not need to be left between members of different households). Fully vaccinated people are encouraged to sit in this section.
  - The left and right sections, as well as the overflow room, will continue to offer socially distanced seating (6 feet between rows and isles, and empty chairs should be left between members of different households). Unvaccinated individuals, as well as fully vaccinated individuals who would be more comfortable with social distance, are encouraged to sit in these sections.
- Our Kids Ministries (KidZone and Youth Group) will continue to follow our school district's guidelines.
  - All staff and students will be required to wear masks indoors, regardless of their vaccination status.
  - We will continue to maintain a minimum of 3 feet of social distance between students, and 6 feet between students and staff, to the best of our ability.
  - We will continue to ask all students and staff to answer our pre-screening questionnaire.
  - Students and staff who are experiencing any symptoms of the COVID-19 virus should not attend in-person.
  - If symptoms develop during the service, the individual will be sent home.
- Please continue to register online as seating may be limited.

In addition, please continue to take the steps recommended by the CDC to protect yourself and others, including washing or sanitizing your hands often, covering your cough and sneeze, monitoring your health daily, and staying home and following the CDC guidance if symptoms develop. And know that we will continue to clean and disinfect our facilities regularly.

The church board is doing everything we can to make our facilities safe, honor our governing authorities, and love our neighbors. Obviously, this is a very fluid and dynamic situation, and these plans are subject to change. County Executive Ryan and the County Health Department are continuously monitoring the situation and are considering the "option of moving beyond a recommendation" regarding the wearing of masks. Our safety plan will be updated accordingly if necessary. The board will continue to move forward with caution because, as Proverbs 14:16 says, "The wise are cautious and avoid danger; fools plunge ahead with reckless confidence." If there is anything that we can do to serve you during this time, please don't hesitate to contact us via email @ [newlifesaugerties@yahoo.com](mailto:newlifesaugerties@yahoo.com), on Facebook, or by phone at (845) 481-4760 (church office) or (845) 332-3149 (Pastor's cell).

Always be full of joy in the Lord. I say it again—rejoice! Let everyone see that you are considerate in all you do. Remember, the Lord is coming soon. Don't worry about anything; instead, pray about everything. Tell God what you need, and thank him for all he has done. Then you will experience God's peace, which exceeds anything we can understand. His peace will guard your hearts and minds as you live in Christ Jesus. - Philippians 4:4-7

Grace & Peace,

Pastor Tim & The Trustees