

Ridgefield United Methodist Church

Phase 2 Policies

July 7, 2020

Introduction

As we continue to respond to the Covid-19 pandemic, we keep before us our guiding principle, "Do no harm." We long to see each other again, but we do not want to put anyone's life or wellness at risk. We know that God's Spirit will be present with us and bind us together even when we cannot be in the same physical space.

Therefore, we will maintain our current Phase 1 practices into Phase 2.

Office Use

Kay will be in the office Tuesday mornings to do the offering count. Sandi Winn or other volunteer will join her by zoom.

Pastor Meredith will continue to work from home, coming into the office when her work necessitates it.

Megan Schlegel will continue to work from home, coming into the office when her work necessitates it.

Trustees may make repairs as long as they schedule it to be at a time when no one else is in the building, and as long as there is only one quarantine unit present.

Whenever anyone is present in the building, they will be in separate places with closed doors. All are required to have and wear masks if they should enter each other's space. All are required to maintain at least six feet distance. All are required to sanitize surfaces after their use. There will only be one person allowed in the bathroom at any time, and persons will be responsible for sanitizing surfaces after each use. All people are required to stay home if they are sick.

Worship

Pastor Meredith will record and edit a weekly worship video made accessible on YouTube, Facebook, our website, and our email list. She will record herself in the church on Friday or Saturday, and will be the only one in the building.

For music, one musician will be in the church playing and singing into a recording device while a second musician/singer will be located outside the church. The musician outside will listen through headphones and be connected to the sound system. All surfaces touched by each musician will be sanitized after each usage. The participants will always be distanced and whenever in the same space will be masked. The outside singer will provide appropriate buffer time after singing and recording before reentering the building to allow the inside musician to move out of the way, and to keep each other's airspace safe. This will allow two musicians to be recorded without the extensive video editing that is otherwise required. This recording will happen ahead of Sunday each week, at a time when no one else is in the building. We will provide on-going review of this policy to ensure everyone's safety.

Other lay leaders may join the worship team from Sunday to Sunday by recording themselves and sending the clip to Pastor Meredith for inclusion in the worship video.

Sunday Morning Building Use

Five people may be in the building on Sunday mornings:

Pastor Meredith, to lead zoom prayer and communion, in her office.

Her two kids, Anna and Ollie, will be in the church nursery.

Roger Green, Trustee Chair will be in the Sanctuary and Narthex, to let any potential worship attenders know that worship is on-line only, and to ring the church bells for our zoom prayer at 10 am, which has great significance for both our congregation and neighborhood.

Megan Schlegel, in the Children's Ministry room or office, will lead Children's ministry zooms.

All of these people will be in separate places with closed doors. All are required to have and wear masks if they should enter each other's space. All are required to maintain at least six feet distance. All are required to sanitize surfaces after their use. There will only be one person allowed in the bathroom at any time, and persons will be responsible for sanitizing surfaces after each use. All people are required to stay home if they are sick.

Small Groups and Children's Ministries

Children's ministries continue to be virtual, meeting on Sundays led by Megan Schlegel.

All small groups will remain virtual. This includes Bible Study, Knitters, Quilters, and Care of the Congregation meetings.

Our Feed My Sheep ministry has donated all their food resources to the Ridgefield Family Resource Center, and so does not need to be operating from our building at this time.

Building Usage

We have been in communication with our building users to let them know our building is currently closed to them. We continue to be in communication with the RPAC preschool who rents our building about how plans may change for their fall schedule.

Submitted by the Covid Response Team:

Tyler Brinkman, Dean Brown, Roger Green, Meredith Gudger-Raines, Lauri Landerholm, Megan Schlegel, Bob and Jan Southard, Margie Stoner, Kurt Stonex