

Best Practices

Mask Mandates

Before churches decide to allow unmasking we ask the churches to consider the following

1. We are only able to allow fully vaccinated members to unmask. Although we do not require individuals to show proof of immunity, under an honor system we are asking only fully vaccinated persons to unmask. A number of studies show that fully vaccinated individuals are less likely to have asymptomatic infection or transmit SARS-CoV-2 to others
2. Consider that our decision to allow fully vaccinated people to unmask can be hurtful to those who cannot get vaccinated due to medical reasons, or families with children who are not eligible to receive vaccines.
3. Congregations can consider asking everyone to maintain wearing their masks for the sake of others. Eleanor Roosevelt once said, "It is not fair to ask of others what you are not willing to do yourself."
4. Consider and find ways that the church can encourage members to become fully vaccinated. Does the church need to provide more information about the vaccine? Does the church need to offer assistance to help members schedule or physically get to their vaccine appointment?