

Pastoral Home Visitation and Vaccination (v1)

Mission and Ministry Workgroup

April 6, 2021

With the prevalence and availability of vaccines to protect against COVID-19, the M&M Workgroup recommends limited in-home pastoral visitation under the following circumstances:

1. The pastor is fully vaccinated, having received both doses of the Pfizer or Moderna vaccine or one shot of the Johnson and Johnson vaccine at least two weeks prior to the visit.
2. The persons being visited are fully vaccinated, having received both doses of the Pfizer or Moderna vaccine, or one shot of the Johnson and Johnson vaccine at least two weeks prior to the visit.
3. All persons in the household are masked for the duration of the visit.
4. Visits do not last longer than one hour.

Ideally, with warming weather, these visits could take place outdoors or on a porch, but this is not required.

Finally, pastors should arrange these visits rather than simply arriving at the parishioner's home. When visiting especially vulnerable populations like the elderly, pastors should make sure any adult children of the person(s) they are visiting are aware of/approve the visit.