

Tuesday, August 17, 2021 - 6:30 pm via Zoom Video Conferencing

God is calling us to be an evolving community of faith inspired to embrace our future as we:

- Deepen our commitment to each other
- Nurture our spiritual vitality and growth
- Live α life of loving influence in the world

Council Members						
Rev. Heather Power	Richard Jackson – Secretary	Doris Jakobsh – Community				
Jennifer Allan – Chair	Karen Schertzberg – M&P	Sandi McMullen – Development				
	Chair					
Deb Siertsema – Vice-Chair	Sue MacQueen – Trustees	Kathy Shortt – Past Chair				
Guests						
Barb Leask – COVID-19 WG	Carolyn Machan — COVID-19	Franceen Wagner – COVID-19				
	WG	WG				
Neil Murray – Music Director	Melanie Chisholm – Church					
	Secretary					
Regrets						
Rev. Joe Gaspar	Gregg King – Treasurer	Sheila Rule – Connections				
Bert Blackburn – COVID-19 WG						

The purpose of this Special Meeting was for members of Church Council to meet with members of the COVID-19 Working Group to discuss potential plans for in-church and Zoom worship services.

1. Opening Prayer & Lighting of Candle – Reverend Heather

2. Approval of Agenda

 Motion: Doris Jakobsh moved THAT the Agenda be approved; seconded by Deb Siertsma; motion passed.

3. Approval of Minutes

 Motion: Doris Jakobsh moved THAT the Minutes of the June 15th meeting, as amended (section 9.2: indicating Sheila Rule's suggestion) be approved; seconded by Sandi McMullen; motion passed.

4. New Business

- (a) What does hybrid church service mean to Parkminster? Group Reflection
 - The discussion established that the participants liked the concept of the 'hybrid' or 'integrated' nature of the worship services, combining in-church and video-conference worship services.
 - It was felt that this was an inclusive and accessible approach to worship that 'draws the circle wide' and allows the choice based on personal preferences.



- On-line worship alone does not meet the needs of the vocal and bell choirs, as Neil Murray made clear.
- (b) Return to In-Person Worship processes and preparations Jennifer Allan
 - Constraints in returning to in-person worship:
 - Being in the provincial government's Step 3, we are allowed in-person worship with capacity based on two-metre physical distancing. This is according to: "COVID-19-Guidance-for-Places-of-Worship.pdf (swpublichealth.ca)" from Oxford County, Elgin County and the City of St. Thomas, see Appendix 1. (Note: Waterloo Region does not yet have their equivalent document updated.) This document has been vetted by Barb Leask Wynne and is thought to be a credible resource.
 - A summary of reports from Chairs of other regional United Churches is attached as Appendix 2. Western Ontario Waterways has also released guidance on this topic, i.e., Reopening Your Church from Western Ontario Waterways (mailchi.mp).
 - The discussion of a return to in-person worship is constrained by the absence of Terry Ridgway, our AV expert, who is away for most of August. Consequently, this limits our ability to fully test AV functionality this month.
 - o Finally, PUC is an early voting station (September 10-13) and day of polling station for the Federal election on Monday, September 20th.
- (c) Return to In-Person Worship Safety Plan Jennifer Allan
 - This special meeting of members of the COVID-19 Working Group (WG) and Church Council
 considered the Return to In-Person Worship processes and preparations document (see
 Appendix 3).
 - It was concluded that no specific date could currently be fixed for the return to in-person worship, although it was thought that a return later in the fall may be possible.
 - The discussion produced a number of action items for the Covid-19 Working Group (WG) to consider:
 - Action: The COVID-19 WG should finalize the registration process soon and revise the signage within the church so that it is fit-for-purpose.
 - Action: Pre-screening at home for COVID-19 using an on-line form should be part of the registration process with an on-line form used and confirmation on entry to the church with a checklist.
 - o Action: A plexiglass screen should be placed on the table at the front door for the protection of the greeter, as well as a hand sanitizer bottle.
 - o Action: the WG should consider how to manage the two-metre separation in the flow of pedestrian 'traffic', i.e., church attendees, outside the church on a Sunday with inclement weather approaching.
 - The tone of the discussion was that we should be in no rush to return to in-person worship because of the remaining hazard of COVID-19 and variants.
 - It was agreed that action items must be addressed by the COVID-19 WG.
 - Reverends Heather Power and Joe Gaspar and Music Director Neil Murray are all keen to return to the sanctuary.



- There was real concern about the music of the Voices United and Cast in Bronze Bell choirs.
 Neil Murray indicated that to keep the choirs engaged, it was important that rehearsals resume in person.
- It was agreed that Cast in Bronze Bell Choir could resume rehearsals, but it was uncertain of the protocol that the Voices United Choir should follow. Following the meeting, Barb Leask contacted Public Health Waterloo and obtained information about safety precautions for the Voices United Choir indicating that it appears that the Choir can rehearse without face coverings if there is at least two-metre distancing (see Appendix 4).
- Two motions were then passed:
 - Motion: Sue MacQueen moved THAT the Cast in Bronze Bell Choir be permitted to return to the sanctuary for rehearsals following acceptance of their safety plan; seconded by Deb Siertsma; motion passed.
 - Motion: Sue MacQueen moved THAT the Voice United Choir practice in small groups be permitted in the sanctuary pending clarification from Public Health Waterloo following acceptance of their safety plan; seconded by Karen Schertzberg; motion passed. Clarification from Public Health was received after the meeting.

(c) Return to use of building – Jennifer Allan

- The WOW document (Reopening Your Church from Western Ontario Waterways) indicates capacity for indoor social gatherings and events (i.e., church meetings) up to 25 people; outdoor up to 100 people.
- For Church meetings, Melanie Chisholm has developed a chart for our reference called Parkminster Building Use identifying groups using the church with by day and time indicated (see Appendix 5).
- The issue of which groups can use the building when and with what safety protocols was considered.
- The following motions were passed:
 - o Motion: Kathy Shortt moved **THAT the Karate tenant may re-enter the church if their** amended safety plan is followed; seconded by Deb Siertsma; motion passed.
 - Motion: Kathy Shortt moved (by post-meeting email) THAT the COVID-19 Working Group recommends that Council approve the ALIUD COVID Safety Plan and that ALIUD proceed with their rental as outlined by Property; seconded by Karen Schertzberg; motion passed (see Appendix 6).
 - (Post meeting by email) Motion: Kathy Shortt moved THAT Council approve the ALIUD COVID Safety Plan and that ALIUD proceed with their rental as outlined by Property; seconded by Sheila Rule; motion passed.
 - Motion: Kathy Shortt moved THAT the Scouts and Guides are approved to return to the church with appropriate amendment of their safety plans for (provincial government) step 3; seconded by Sue MacQueen; motion passed.
- Melanie Chisholm advised that all other renters should submit their safety plans after which
 can then be reviewed and approved. Jennifer Allan noted that we may not be re-opening at
 the same time for all groups as it will depend on schedules and ability for cleaning between
 users.
- Church committees should continue meeting remotely for the time being.



- 5. Any Other Business: none
- **6.** Closing Blessing Reverend Heather
- 7. Next meeting -
 - Council September 21, 2021 at 6:30 p.m.
 - COVID-19 Working Group to be determined

APPENDICES

- 1. COVID-19-Guidance-for-Places-of-Worship.pdf (swpublichealth.ca)
- 2. August 2021 Feedback from Chairs of Regional United Churches
- 3. Return to In-Person Worship Processes and Preparations
- 4. E-Mail to Barb Leask from Public Health Waterloo re choir practice
- 5. Parkminster Building Use Chart
- 6. ALIUD Alternative School Safety Plan

Appendix 1: COVID-19 (Novel Coronavirus) Places of Worship

COVID-19 Guidance for Places of Worship

July 16, 2021

Version 18.0

Key Points

- Some requirements for Places of Worship will vary depending on our region's current step level within the provinces Roadmap to Reopen plan.
- Staff must be screened for symptoms of COVID-19 before each shift and reminded to stay home and get tested if they are sick or experiencing symptoms of COVID-19. Visitor screening (passive) is required (e.g., posting a sign at the entrance).
- All Places of Worship must develop a COVID-19 workplace safety plan and must post it in a conspicuous location.
- All staff, volunteers and worshippers must wear a face covering when in the indoor area of a place of worship.
 - Staff and/or volunteers working in employee-only spaces who can distance themselves from all other staff members in that space do not need to mask while in this area.
- The Ontario mandatory face covering order does NOT allow for the temporary removal of the face covering where physical barriers (e.g., Plexiglass) are provided, even while singing or delivering a service.
- All other general public health measures, including physical distancing (even when wearing a
 face covering), hand hygiene and enhanced cleaning, remain critical to reducing the spread of
 COVID-19 infections.

The COVID-19 pandemic is evolving rapidly. This guidance is subject to change. Please visit the Southwestern Public Health website (https://www.swpublichealth.ca/) regularly for updates and announcements. This guidance is to support owners/operators on how to keep places of worship operating safely and includes mandated restrictions and capacity limits in place in Ontario's Roadmap to Reopen. Timelines for the start of each step of the roadmap are subject to change based on provincial direction.



Appendix 1: COVID-19 (Novel Coronavirus) Places of Worship

COVID-19 Roadmap to Reopen

Places of Worship must follow the requirements outlined in Ontario's Roadmap to Reopen. The below chart provides an overview of restrictions in place in each step of the Roadmap.

Step in Roadmap	Requirements		
General Public Health Measures for all Businesses and Organizations	 ✓ Workplaces must screen all workers and essential visitors entering the work environment. See the COVID-19 Screening Tool for Workplaces for more information ✓ Personal Protective Equipment that provides protection of the eyes, nose and mouth is required if a worker is required to come within 2 metres of another person who is not wearing a face covering and is not separated by Plexiglass or some other impermeable barrier. ✓ All businesses or facilities must limit capacity so that every member of the public is able to maintain two metres of physical distance from every other person. ✓ All businesses or organizations must post signs at all entrances to the premises in a conspicuous location visible to the public that inform individuals on how to screen themselves for COVID-19 prior to entering the premises. ✓ Businesses or places that are open shall ensure that equipment, washrooms, locker rooms, change rooms and showers that are accessible to the public are cleaned and disinfected as frequently as is necessary to maintain a sanitary condition. ✓ Face coverings are required to be worn by members of the public and workers in indoor public places and workplaces, with limited exceptions. ✓ All workplaces must develop a COVID-19 workplace safety plan and have it available should an inspector or compliance officer request to see it during an inspection. ✓ Food and beverages may be served to attendees of an event/social gathering within monitored facilities, provided all public health measures are strictly adhered to (please see the food and beverages section below, and our Food Premises Guidance document for more information). 		
Step 1	 ✓ Gathering limits for in-person religious services, rites or ceremonies, including wedding services and funeral services (applies in any venue other than a private dwelling): 15% capacity indoors For outdoors, capacity limits adjust to allow for the number of people that can maintain two metres of physical distance (small space fewer people; large space, more people). This does NOT apply to social gatherings associated with these services, such as receptions. Physical distancing must be maintained 		



	 ✓ Gathering limits for social gatherings or organized public events: No more than 10 people outdoors. Indoor gatherings are not permitted Physical distancing must be maintained ✓ Virtual and drive-in events and religious services, rites or ceremonies are permitted (see below for details).
Step 2	 ✓ Gathering limits for in-person religious services, rites or ceremonies, including wedding services and funeral services (applies in any venue other than a private dwelling): 25% capacity indoors For outdoors, capacity limits adjust to allow for the number of people that can maintain two metres of physical distance (small space fewer people; large space, more people). This does NOT apply to social gatherings associated with these services, such as receptions. Physical distancing must be maintained ✓ Gathering limits for social gatherings or organized public events:
Step 3	 ✓ Gathering limits for in-person religious services, rites or ceremonies, including wedding services and funeral services (applies in any venue other than a private dwelling): Indoor services permitted with capacity limits to allow for the number of people occupying a room to maintain two metres of physical distance from every other person in the room. For outdoors, capacity limits adjust to allow for the number of people that can maintain two metres of physical distance (small space fewer people; large space, more people). This does NOT apply to social gatherings associated with these services, such as receptions. Physical distancing must be maintained ✓ Gathering limits for social gatherings or organized public events: No more than 100 people outdoors No more than 25 people indoors ✓ Virtual and drive-in events and religious services, rites or ceremonies are permitted (see below for details).

Faith community leaders/organizers are responsible for preventing the risk of infection among staff, volunteers, community members, and visitors who participate in their activities.



Guidance for Step Three of the Roadmap to Reopen

General Restrictions

- Adapt or suspend all indoor singing and the use of wind instruments See the "Singing and Musical Instrument" section below for more information.
- Avoid opportunities for the virus to spread through touch, either directly or indirectly (i...e, through surfaces and objects, including objects that may be used in rituals or ceremonies). Use of any communal items that are shared but are difficult to clean and disinfect (e.g., bibles) should be limited. If used, hand hygiene should be performed immediately before and after use.
- Enhance cleaning and disinfection of high-touch surfaces (i.e., pews, door handles, etc.).

Mandatory Face Coverings

The Province of Ontario has mandated face coverings in indoor spaces. Face coverings must cover the nose, mouth and chin. Some exemptions to the use of face coverings apply. Read the full regulation here. According to our local Letter of Instruction, faith organizations are required to develop a policy and protocols on the wearing of face coverings. Here are additional details and FAQs about this Letter of Instruction.

<u>Please note:</u> Under the Ontario face covering regulation, everyone must wear a face covering at all times, even if behind a physical barrier. Face coverings are strongly recommended outdoors where physical distancing between members outside a person's household is difficult to maintain.

Preparing for Services

- Consider alternative ways to involve individuals at greater risk from COVID-19 (e.g., older individuals or those with chronic health conditions), including online services, letter/card writing, calling networks, etc.
- In **Step 3** of the Roadmap to Reopen, indoor services are allowed with capacity limited to the number of people that can maintain a physical distance of at least two metres from every other person in the
- Remove seating, or if seating is fixed, mark it unavailable/rope it off to ensure a two-metre distance between rows of seating. Plan the quantity of seating to allow for a two-metre distance between individuals or household groups along each row. If reduced seating capacity is less than the expected attendance, consider re-arranging the services' schedule to provide more frequent but smaller services.
- Cohort individuals and families. For instance, organize attendance, so the same individuals/families go to the same service each day/week to minimize the mixing of different individuals/families.



- Plan how to control movement into and out of your facility and ensure a two-metre distance within the space. Separate entrances and exits may not be necessary as participants usually enter and exit within distinct periods.
- Discourage movement against the flow of people moving in the space. It may be necessary to mark off two-metre distances outside or in a vestibule if it is anticipated that lines will form. Consider clear markings on the floors and having someone control leaving the space by seating row to promote physical distancing.
- Consider developing a system to RSVP attendance to specific services or events. This may also allow online screening of attendees at the same time.
- Ensure all water systems (drinking fountains) are safe to use. If your facility is a small drinking water system, contact SWPH for further direction before opening.
- Discontinue the use of holy water stoup.
- Develop a schedule for increased routine cleaning and disinfecting.

Prevent COVID-19 Outbreaks

- Ensure you have an up-to-date attendance list of everyone who attended your place of worship in case someone attended while they were contagious.
- Options for an attendance list may include: keeping a record of online RSVPs; having a staff member observe and record names/contact information for each service; or having members sign in through a safe method (do not provide a pen, or have multiple pens with two containers clearly marked "sanitized" and "used").
- If there is a case of COVID-19 who was contagious while attending services, public health will use the prepared list to notify the place of worship attendees and staff. This may include instructions to self-isolate or self-monitor for COVID-19 symptoms.
- Anyone with even one symptom of COVID-19 should stay home and call Telehealth, their health care
 provider, or an assessment centre for guidance about testing.
- Should there be a positive case, public health will advise any additional cleaning and disinfecting measures needed to reduce the risk of spreading COVID-19 in the setting.

Establish Policies for Staff Health Screening

Staff and volunteers must report illness immediately to their manager and stay home if they are sick. Staff and volunteers must complete the online COVID-19 worker and employee screening each time before starting their shift. Persons who become ill while in the service must go home right away, self-isolate and call Telehealth, their health care provider, or an assessment centre for guidance about testing.



Training

Instruct staff and volunteers on proper hand hygiene techniques and respiratory etiquette, when and how to wear face coverings, and clean reusable masks or discard single-use masks appropriately. Go to proper use of non – medical masks and see face covering section above.

Print and Post Signs

- COVID-19 self-assessment visitor's sign must be posted at all entrances.
- Handwashing signs should be posted in high visibility areas.
- Face covering signs should be posted in high visibility areas and at all entrances.

Add similar information to the organization's website. Encourage attendees to use the COVID-19 Online Self Assessment Tool before every visit to the place of worship and/or set up screening stations away from the entrance to avoid crowding.

During Services

- Remind everyone not to attend the service in person if they are experiencing COVID-19 symptoms.
- Modify the activities before, during and after the service to ensure a two-metre distance between leaders, staff, volunteers and attendees at all times.
- Adapt or suspend regular childcare and children's programming. Any childcare and children's programming that is open should operate in a manner consistent with the Ministry of Health's COVID Guidance: Summer Day Camps.
- Activities that increase the risk of COVID-19 transmission should be altered or discontinued.
- Encourage attendees to bring their own face coverings (we recommend you have disposable face
 coverings on hand for individuals who forget to bring one or have trouble accessing them). Recognize
 that not everyone will wear a mask (e.g., has a condition that makes breathing difficult). See face
 covering section above for details. Physical distancing is still required, even when wearing a face
 covering.
- Avoid any physical contact. Encourage people to greet each other with a bow, wave, or any other customary sign of welcome or recognition that does not include physical touching.
- Allow for adequate cleaning and disinfecting of high traffic areas between services.
- Avoid the use of items that are difficult to clean, sanitize or disinfect.
- Adapt or suspend sharing or distributing materials or objects, which may include but is not limited to books, communion, microphones, prayer mats, prayer shawls, water, etc. If any materials or objects are shared or distributed:
 - o Ensure that hand hygiene is performed prior to distribution or sharing and after sharing.
 - o Consider leaving objects or materials to be distributed on a table for individuals to pick up.
 - Limit the number of individuals who have contact with materials or objects.
 - o Ensure any materials or objects returned or accessed within the setting are disinfected.



- Rituals involving close physical contact (e.g., baptism, circumcision) or shared items (e.g., receptacles, washing facilities) are strongly discouraged as they may increase the risk of COVID-19 transmission. If they must be performed, considerations need to be made to provide them safely, including the mandatory personal protective equipment requirement of eye protection and medical mask for staff where physical distancing of 2 metres from the public cannot be maintained.
- Discontinuing communion is strongly recommended at this time. Discontinue the use of holy water rites.
- Do not pass offering plates. Consider a designed area to offer donations, use online/e-transfer or debit/credit card tap machines or accept mailed-in offerings.
- Encourage hand hygiene with hand sanitizer stations (60-90% alcohol concentration). Avoid access to hand sanitizer by young children without supervision.
- Encourage good respiratory etiquette. Cover mouth and nose with an elbow when coughing or sneezing, even when wearing a mask for added protection.

Singing and Playing Musical Instruments

- Singing, loud speech, or wind instruments can generate aerosol and respiratory droplets that may travel further than two metres.
- Adapt or suspend singing, choirs and playing wind or brass instruments:
 - Consider using audio or video recordings instead of live singing or wind or brass instrumental music. This is the lowest risk option.
 - o Group singing is **strongly discouraged**. A soloist at least 4 metres from the congregation and wearing a face covering during the performance is permissible. The province has mandated face coverings in indoor areas of businesses or organizations. While there are exemptions to the use of face coverings, there is no exemption for removing face coverings when behind an impermeable barrier. This means that soloists must wear a face covering while singing, even when behind a barrier.
 - Anyone playing a wind or brass instrument should be 2 metres from anyone else and separated by an impermeable barrier. If an impermeable barrier is not used, anyone playing a wind or brass instrument should be separated from any other person (outside of the same household) to the greatest extent possible (minimum 2 metres, preferably 4 metres).
 - Individuals playing a wind or brass instrument can temporarily remove their face covering and be at least 2 metres and preferably 4 metres apart from others and behind an impermeable barrier.
- If singing outdoors and able to physically distance, face coverings are not required. Because singing
 may propel aerosols further, a physical distance of greater than 2 metres between singers is
 recommended.
- If multiple non-wind instruments are being played, ensure physical distancing between musicians unless from the same household.
- Do not share microphones. Clean and disinfect microphones according to the manufacturer's instructions after each use.



Enhanced Cleaning and Disinfection

- It is essential to first clean, then disinfect surfaces.
- Most regular household disinfectant products are effective at eliminating the virus.
- Cleaning and disinfectant products should have an 8-digit Drug Identification Number (DIN) to confirm it
 is approved for use in Canada. Check the expiry dates of products and always follow the
 manufacturer's instructions.
- Cleaning/disinfection wipes should only be used for surfaces, and according to the manufacturer's instructions. Alternatively, chlorine bleach solutions may be used for disinfection. Prepare fresh bleach solution daily.
- Educate staff on the proper use of cleaning agents and disinfectants, including required disinfectant contact times (amount of time that the product will need to remain wet on a surface to achieve disinfection). Understand safety precautions and the requirements for the use of masks and gloves.
- Ensure adequate ventilation when using products (e.g., open windows, doors).
- Ensure ventilation systems are operating properly and replace filters as scheduled or sooner.
- Clean and disinfect all high-touch surfaces (e.g., toilets, sinks, door handles, light switches, remote controls) at a minimum twice daily, and when visibly dirty.
- Ensure washrooms are always stocked with toilet paper, liquid soap and paper towels. Antibacterial soap is not required to prevent the spread of COVID-19.
- Wash hands with soap and water immediately after cleaning.

Note: Disinfectant wipes may have a combined cleaning and disinfectant in one solution. Depending on how dirty the surface is, it may need to be pre-cleaned as disinfectants may become ineffective when dirt is present. Check instructions on the product's label.

Drive-in Religious Gatherings

- Only members of the same household can be in one vehicle or non-motorized vehicle.
- Discourage people from leaving their vehicles/non-motorized vehicle during the service, except when using the washroom.
- Vehicles must be parked two metres apart or more. Discourage the idling of engines.
- If faith community leaders, staff or volunteers are to approach a vehicle to provide service to its occupants, everyone must wear a face covering.



Food and Beverages

- In Step 3, food and beverages are permitted to served indoors and outdoors with the following conditions:
 - Capacity must be limited to the number of people that can maintain a physical distance of at least two metres from every other person.
 - The tables must be set up so that individuals sitting at different tables are separated by a distance of at least 2 metres, or plexiglass or some other impermeable barrier. See Guidance for Physical Barriers for more information.
 - Those dining indoors or outdoors must be actively screened before they enter for a meal. See COVID-19 Customer Screening.
 - The name and contact information must be collected from each individual who is dining indoors or outdoors and kept for a period of 30 days, unless they are temporarily entering the place to pick up or pay for a takeout order.
- If food is served at a special event, a Special Event Form must be filled out at least 14 days prior.
 - See SWPH's Special Event Webpage for more information.
 - Please note that special event forms do not need to be filled out if the organization is only serving coffee, tea, and non-hazardous baked goods to members of the congregation.
- Thoroughly clean and disinfect the premises before opening.
 - Wash, rinse and sanitize all food contact surfaces.
 - Clean and disinfect all non-food contact surfaces, including high touch areas, such as door handles and equipment knobs.
 - Clean and disinfect all high touch surfaces at least twice daily during operation.
- Ensure food handlers are trained on best practices to serve food and beverages.
 - o Train food handlers on the proper use of gloves and face masks.
 - Gloves are not required, but if used, they must be changed frequently (e.g., between tasks), with handwashing between uses.
 - Encourage frequent handwashing using the correct technique and avoid touching one's face with unwashed hands.
 - Practice safe respiratory etiquette (i.e., cough or sneeze into a bent elbow, and immediately wash your hands with soap and water).

Other Businesses on Premises

Places of worship that offer free or rented spaces to other groups or businesses must abide by the emergency orders of the provincial Chief Medical Officer of Health, and all applicable public health guidance documents.



Additional Resources

Physical Distancing Poster
Physical Distancing on Elevators
Cleaning & Disinfection in Public Spaces
Physical Barriers for COVID-19 Infection Prevention and Control
Food Premises Guidance Document
Guidance for Gathering Limits
Ont. Regulation 364/20 – Step 3 Restrictions



APPENDIX 2:

August 2021 Feedback from Chairs of Regional United Churches

St. James'-Rosemount United Church, Kitchener

- Still not worshipping indoors but have had some outdoor services and plan to continue outdoors until we get a better sense of the way the current COVID case counts are trending locally and provincially.
- Have not allowed any of the outside groups to use our facilities as yet but have offered them use of our outdoor spaces as long as they abide by COVID regulations.
- We will be having a meeting of our full Board in mid-September and hope to be able to make further decisions at that time.

Calvary Memorial, Kitchener

- Having our first worship service this Sunday with a new minister and thus are just completing plans as we speak.
- Planning on reopening for worship on Sept 12 and our Health and Wellness team has been confirming protocols to keep us all safe.
- Last fall, these included 6 ft gaps between households (and therefore limits on attendance), humming
 instead of singing, no passing of the peace and no coffee hour. We also plan to continue some digital
 worship content either by a taped service like we currently offer for a few weeks and livestreaming and
 recording going forward.

First United, Waterloo

- Safe Start Team has been active for a long time.
- Church building was never closed completely, except for a very short time because we have renters for whom the building is their workplace and a couple of essential services that run in our building. Narcotics Anonymous, Fridays at First and Bailey's Foods).
- Plan to start in person worship on Sept. 12 and will continue to live stream as we think many are still not feeling safe to gather.
- Have set up our sanctuary with cushions marking where people can sit and have roped off the pews that we
 do not want used. We left extra pews at the front to allow space from the piano, the pulpit and lectern and
 any singer we might have.
- Have plexiglass barriers to put up if we have a singer at the front or from the balcony where our organ is.
- We will use one way into the church, the door off the mall parking lot.
- People will keep their coats with them
- Will need to sign in for contact tracing and we have set up a waiver as suggested by our insurance company. (There is some debate about needing this now.)
- People will be asked to come with extra time to prevent line ups. They will be directed to the empty seat closest to the front and be asked to remain at their seats until time to leave. There will be a longer prelude and postlude to make the waiting a bit easier!
- Changes to the actual service will include no communal singing, prayers or readings. Our worship team is working on how that will play out. I think there will be use of videos of readings and choir and some action type prayers to allow movement within their seats for the people in the building.
- When the service is over, an usher will direct the people out from the back forward and people will be reminded that they need to immediately leave the building and can visit with each other, socially distanced, outside where it is safer.
- Our washrooms can only fit one person at a time so all of our washrooms will be converted to universal and there are signs that show occupied or unoccupied on the outside doors.

Return to In-Person Worship Processes and Preparations

As COVID-19 Working Group and Church Council we need to determine processes for the following:

- Capacity with physical distancing in pews Considering physical distancing requirement, Bert measured:
 - Sanctuary Our pews measure 1.7 m if we skip every other row so we will have to skip two rows. Some of them are shorter as well for wheel chair cut-outs. The longer pews are 5.5 m. If we remove 2 m. from the centre that would leave only 1.75 m at each end for people to sit. There are 10 pews if we skip 2. There could be 3 adults or 2 adults and 2 kids in 1.75 m. This allows for ~60 adults.
 - Choir loft measures 10 m x 3.5 m but there is close to 4 m in the middle for the piano and organ. Theoretically there could be 2 rows except for in the middle. This allows another 12 adults.
 - Narthex room for about 4 people.
 - Family space room for 1 family.
- Signs Restricted areas, hand sanitizer, masks, etc.
- Church service registration Phone, email?
- COVID-19 prescreening Done at home, at church?
- Contact tracing Sign in sheets, pens?
- Volunteers Welcoming, ushering and training for such
- Traffic flow Should fill from the front to the back so later arrivals would not have to walk past people already seated and enter from centre or side isles. Exit from back to front.
- Hand sanitizer stations Do we have them and if so, where?
- Cleaning/disinfecting Allen's schedule?
- Hybrid service processes In-person, Zoom, Facebook
- Church Service rehearsal/test Timing?
- Potential start date?

APPENDIX 4

Email to Barb Leask from Public Health Waterloo, 2021-08-18

This is the info I received from Public Health this morning. It appears that the choir can rehearse without face coverings if there is at least 2-meter distancing. I think that as soon as the rehearsal has stopped and before folks start moving around that the masks need to be put back on.

It appears that face shields are not a good substitute for masks as I suspected.

if some one could take a picture of the plexiglass shield for the pulpit, I will send it to Connie and she can advise if the ministers can do without face masks for their sermons etc.

Barb

---- Forwarded Message -----

From: Connie Tinney < ctinney@regionofwaterloo.ca>

To: 'barbara leask' < beleask@rogers.com >

Sent: Wednesday, August 18, 2021, 10:46:27 a.m. EDT

Subject: RE: Parkminster United Church

Hi Barb,

Thank you for inquiring with me. I've provided you with applicable sections of the law however and in simple answers,

- 1. Face Coverings and rehearsing:
 - ➤ Face coverings are not required however and with respect to social distancing, it is suggested to maintain 2m of physical distance of one another while rehearsing. Please see below and herein, Schedule 2, S.2(4) (f) is performing or rehearsing in a film or television production or in a concert, artistic event, theatrical performance or other performance; Also, below and herein and new addition to the law, is "Live Entertainment" general rules on performing, Schedule 2, S.6. (1) The person responsible for a business or place that is open shall ensure that, if live entertainment is performed for spectators at the business or place, the performers maintain a physical distance of at least two metres from any spectators or are separated from any spectators by plexiglass or some other impermeable barrier.
- 2. Face Coverings during sermon or announcement and, I assume at this time members of congregation present?? Further, when you say plexiglass is installed, would you be able to either provide a picture of the area you speak of or describe the plexiglas coverage?
 - ➤ Without specific knowledge of coverage area of plexiglass: if applicable coverage and, able to maintain a 2m distance from colleague of church no face covering required unless an exemption applies;
 - ➢ If not adequate plexiglass coverage face covering shall be worn unless an exemption applies;
- 3. Face shields:
 - ➤ If an exemption to not wearing a face covering applies, a face shield is acceptable however it is important to note that face shields on their own are not as effective as a face covering and therefore the Province of Ontario and our Public Health team encourage the use of a 3-ply face covering that covers the mouth, nose and chin area tightly. Region of Waterloo Public Health guidance on Face Coverings

STEP 3

SCHEDULE 1
GENERAL RULES AT STEP 3

General compliance

- **2.** (1) The person responsible for a business or organization that is open shall ensure that the business or organization operates in accordance with all applicable laws, including the *Occupational Health and Safety Act* and the regulations made under it.
- (2) The person responsible for a business or organization that is open shall operate the business or organization in compliance with the advice, recommendations and instructions of public health officials, including any advice, recommendations or instructions on physical distancing, cleaning or disinfecting.
- (3) The person responsible for a business or organization that is open shall operate the business or organization in compliance with any advice, recommendations and instructions issued by the Office of the Chief Medical Officer of Health, or another public health official, on screening individuals by, among other things,
 - (a) posting signs at all entrances to the premises of the business or organization, in a conspicuous location visible to the public, that inform individuals on how to screen themselves for COVID-19 prior to entering the premises; and
 - (b) actively screening every person who works at the business or organization before they enter the premises of the business or organization.
- (3.1) The person responsible for a business or organization that is open shall ensure that any person in the indoor area of the premises of the business or organization, or in a vehicle that is operating as part of the business or organization, wears a mask or face covering in a manner that covers their mouth, nose and chin during any period when they are in the indoor area unless subsection (4) applies to the person in the indoor area.
- (4) Where there is any requirement under this Order that a person wear a mask or face covering, the requirement does not apply to a person who,
 - (a) is a child who is younger than two years of age;
 - (b) is attending a school or private school within the meaning of the *Education Act* that is operated in accordance with a return to school direction issued by the Ministry of Education and approved by the Office of the Chief Medical Officer of Health;
 - (c) is attending a child care program at a place that is in compliance with the child care re-opening guidance issued by the Ministry of Education;
 - (c.1) is attending a day camp or overnight camp for children that is in compliance with section 19 of Schedule 2:
 - (d) is receiving residential services and supports in a residence listed in the definition of "residential services and supports" in subsection 4 (2) of the Services and Supports to Promote the Social Inclusion of Persons with Developmental Disabilities Act, 2008;
 - (e) is in a correctional institution or in a custody and detention program for young persons in conflict with the law:
 - (f) is performing or rehearsing in a film or television production or in a concert, artistic event, theatrical performance or other performance;
 - (g) has a medical condition that inhibits their ability to wear a mask or face covering;
 - (h) is unable to put on or remove their mask or face covering without the assistance of another person;
 - (i) needs to temporarily remove their mask or face covering while in the indoor area,
 - (i) to receive services that require the removal of their mask or face covering,
 - (ii) to engage in an athletic or fitness activity,
 - (iii) to consume food or drink, or
 - (iv) as may be necessary for the purposes of health and safety;

- (j) is being accommodated in accordance with the Accessibility for Ontarians with Disabilities Act, 2005;
- (k) is being reasonably accommodated in accordance with the Human Rights Code; or
- (I) performs work for the business or organization, is in an area that is not accessible to members of the public and is able to maintain a physical distance of at least two metres from every other person while in the indoor area.
- (5) Subsection (3.1) does not apply with respect to premises that are used as a dwelling if the person responsible for the business or organization ensures that persons in the premises who are not entitled to an exception set out in subsection (4) wear a mask or face covering in a manner that covers their mouth, nose and chin in any common areas of the premises in which persons are unable to maintain a physical distance of at least two metres from other persons.
- (5.1) The person responsible for a business or organization shall ensure that every person who performs work for the business or organization and whose mask or face covering is temporarily removed to consume food or drink under subclause (4) (i) (iii) is separated from every other person by,
 - (a) a distance of at least two metres; or
 - (b) plexiglass or some other impermeable barrier.
- (6) For greater certainty, it is not necessary for a person to present evidence to the person responsible for a business or place that they are entitled to any of the exceptions set out in subsection (4).
- (7) A person shall wear appropriate personal protective equipment that provides protection of the person's eyes, nose and mouth if, in the course of providing services, the person,
 - (a) is required to come within 2 metres of another person who is not wearing a mask or face covering in a manner that covers that person's mouth, nose and chin during any period when that person is in an indoor area; and
 - (b) is not separated by plexiglass or some other impermeable barrier from a person described in clause (a).
- (8) Where directives, policies or guidance that apply to a long-term care home within the meaning of the *Long-Term Care Homes Act, 2007* are issued by the Office of the Chief Medical Officer of Health, the Minister of Long-Term Care or the Ministry of Long-Term Care, such directives, polices or guidance apply despite anything in this Order.

Live entertainment: requirements

- **6.** (1) The person responsible for a business or place that is open shall ensure that, if live entertainment is performed for spectators at the business or place, the performers maintain a physical distance of at least two metres from any spectators or are separated from any spectators by plexiglass or some other impermeable barrier.
- (2) In the case of an event referred to in section 28 of Schedule 2 that is held outdoors, the requirement set out in subsection (1) applies to the person responsible for the business that hosts the event.

SCHEDULE 2 SPECIFIC RULES AT STEP 3

Entertainment

Concert venues, theatres and cinemas

22. (1) Concert venues, theatres and cinemas may open if they comply with the following conditions:

- 1. The number of members of the public at an outdoor seated concert, event, performance or movie within the concert venue, theatre or cinema at any one time must not exceed 75 per cent of the usual seating capacity for the concert venue, theatre or cinema, or 15,000 persons, whichever is less.
- 2. The number of members of the public in the outdoor area of the concert, event, performance or movie at any one time must not exceed 75 per cent capacity of the concert venue, theatre or cinema, as determined in accordance with subsection 3 (2) of Schedule 1, or 5,000 persons, whichever is less.
- 3. The number of members of the public at an indoor seated concert, event, performance or movie within the concert venue, theatre or cinema at any one time must not exceed 50 per cent of the usual seating capacity for the concert venue, theatre or cinema, or 1,000 persons, whichever is less.
- 4. The number of members of the public permitted to be in a particular room in the indoor portion of the seated concert, event, performance or movie at any one time must not exceed 50 per cent of the usual seating capacity of the room in the concert venue, theatre or cinema, and the total capacity for the particular room cannot be added to increase the total capacity of the concert venue, theatre, or cinema as provided for under paragraph 3.
- 5. Every member of the public who is outdoors at a concert, event, performance or movie must wear a mask or face covering in a manner that covers their mouth, nose and chin, unless they are entitled to any of the exceptions set out in subsection 2 (4) of Schedule 1, or are seated with members of their own household only, and every member of the household is seated at least two metres from every person outside their household.
- 6. No member of the public may attend a seated concert, event, performance or movie within the concert venue, theatre or cinema unless they have made a reservation to do so.
- 7. The person responsible for the concert venue, theatre or cinema must post a sign in a conspicuous location visible to the public that states the capacity limits under which the concert venue, theatre or cinema is permitted to operate and the capacity limits of any seated concert, event, performance or movie within the concert venue, theatre or cinema.
- (2) For the purposes of paragraph 5 of subsection (1), the references to "indoor area" in clauses 2 (4) (i) and (l) of Schedule 1 shall be read as "outdoor area", and for greater certainty members of the public are permitted to remove a mask or face covering temporarily to consume food or drink, or as may be necessary for the purposes of health and safety.
- (3) For greater certainty, the person responsible for the concert venue, theatre or cinema must prepare a safety plan in accordance with section 3.3 of Schedule 1.

Connie Tinney

Tobacco Enforcement Officer

Region of Waterloo

Licensing and Enforcement Services

Council and Administrative Services

150 Frederick St. 2nd Floor

Kitchener Ontario N2G 4J3

Cell 519-505-0769

www.regionofwaterloo.ca

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From: barbara leask < beleask@rogers.com >

Sent: August 18, 2021 10:02 AM

To: Connie Tinney < CTinney@regionofwaterloo.ca>

Subject: Parkminster United Church

I have a question. I could find no guidelines. Our choir would like to resume some practicing. There would be no congregation present and would probably be by section so less than 15 members at a time. I am assuming that masks must be worn and distancing requirements of 3 meters or more. Also how much time should elapse between one section practicing and the next. I have read 15 minutes would be appropriate. The practicing would be in the sanctuary which is quite large with a very high vaulted ceiling. Occasionally they might try to practice outside weather permitting and I am assuming that masks would still be necessary. Our music director will be present for all sessions to ensure that safety protocols are followed.

Also our ministers are wondering if for the duration of their sermon or announcements, could the mask be removed. We have a plexiglass barrier installed.

Are face shields a reasonable subsitute in any of the above circumstances.

Barb Leask

APPENDIX 5

PARKMINSTER BUILDING USE - as at August 11, 2021

DAY	TIME	ROOM	NAME	TYPE	FREQ.	NOTES
MON						
A.M.	10:00-11:30am	Gym	Caregivers & Tots	PUC outreach	wkly	
P.M.	2:00-3:00pm	Double classroom	Spanish class	comm. outreach	wkly	hold booking
	6:30-7:30pm	Gym	9th Beavers	comm. outreach	wkly	waiting to hear
	7:00-9:00pm	Double classroom	9th Pathfinders	comm. outreach	wkly	want to return
	7:00-8:30pm	Family Room	Resettlement	PUC	3rd Mon	
	7:00-9:00pm	Family Room	Gay Men's Social Network (mtg)	comm. outreach	last Mon	want to return
TUES						
A.M.	10:00am-3:00pm	Double classroom	ALIUD Alternative**	tenant (new-tbd)	wkly	wants to start Sept 7
P.M.	5:00-9:00pm	Kitchen & Hallway	WRDSS Youth Cooking Class	tenant	wkly	waiting to hear
	5:00-6:30pm	Family Room	Worship	PUC	1st Tues	
	5:30-9:30pm	Gym	KW Karate	tenant	wkly	wants to return Sept 9
	6:00-8:00pm	Double classroom	Church Council	PUC	3rd Tues	
	6:30-8:00pm	Double classroom	Cubs	comm. outreach	wkly	Scouting - TBD
	6:30-8:00pm	Corner classroom	Venturers	comm. outreach	wkly	want to return
	6:30-9:30pm	Sanctuary & Family Room	Affirming Evangelicals	comm. outreach	4th Tues	waiting to hear
	7:00-8:30pm	Family Room	Inclusive Ministries	PUC	1st Tues	waiting to near
	7:00-9:00pm	Family Room	Gay Men's Social Network (euchre)	comm. outreach	3rd Tues	want to return
	7:00-8:30pm	Chapel		PUC.	2nd Tues	want to return
		·	Membership & Past. Care			
	7:30-8:30pm	Chapel	Property	PUC PUC	last Tues	
	7:30-8:30pm	Nursery	Laughter Yoga	PUC	2nd Tues	want to return
WED						
A.M.	no bookings					
P.M.	1:00-2:00pm	Family Room	Prayer Shawl group	PUC	2nd Wed	
	6:30-8:30pm	Double classroom	13th Guides	comm.outreach	wkly	want to return
	6:30-8:30pm	Nursery	8th Pathfinders	comm.outreach	wkly	want to return
	6:30-8:30pm	Gym	Scouts	comm.outreach	wkly	waiting to hear
	7:00-8:30pm	Sanctuary	Bells	PUC	wkly	
THURS						
A.M.	10am-3:00pm	Double classroom	ALIUD Alternative**	tenant (new-tbd)	wkly	wants to start Sept 7
	10am-2:00pm	Gym & Kitchen	ACCKWA Cooking Circle	comm.outreach	3rd Thurs	want to return
P.M.	2:00-4:00pm	Gym	Games Group for Adults	PUC	1st Thurs	
	5:30-9:30pm	Gym	KW Karate	tenant	wkly	wants to return Sept 9
	7:30-9:30pm	Sanctuary	VU Choir	PUC	wkly	
FRI						
A.M.	no bookings					
P.M.	7:00-9:00pm	Youth Room	Youth Group	PUC	alternate wks	
SAT						
A.M.	morning	Sanctuary	The Band	PUC	wkly	
	Ü	Gym, Nursery, Family Room & Double			•	(new owner pending)-
	8:30am-1:30pm	classroom	Stagecoach	tenant	wkly	hold booking
P.M.	nothing other than Stag				****	

represents tenant

Possible Future Rentals:

**ALIUD Alternative (NEW ongoing tenant) - Bert has reviewed their rental application and supports it. I am waiting on COVID protocls and will then submit to you for Council approval.

Moonlit Memory Walk (for Home Hospice Assoc): event date Oct 20; need to know by Sept 10 (Melanie to organize application) Family Christmas Dinner - Elizabeth Sproule - requesting Sat, Dec 4 (Melanie to connect in November)

COVID SAFETY PLAN FOR ALIUD ALTERNATIVE

ALIUD Health and Safety Measures:

We will be practising social distancing daily. Each teen will have their own designated workspace. We have implemented mandatory workspace sanitization times throughout the day, and students will have access to hand sanitizer and sanitizing wipes, which I will supply. All students and visitors coming into our learning environment will wear masks and follow Covid safety protocols.

Illnesses: We will be enforcing a strict stay-home-when-sick policy. Anyone who is not feeling well must stay at home. This includes fever, runny nose, headache, cough, sore throat, and vomiting. If someone in the household has been in contact with anyone who has symptoms of Covid-19 or has recently been tested and is awaiting results, we ask the student to work from home until the results have come back negative. We will be conducting our own Covid assessment with students upon arrival. We ask that parents do the same at home. If there is uncertainty, students are required to home. If a student is sent home due to Covid-like symptoms, they will be required to stay home for 14 days before they can return. Alternatively, proof of a negative Covid test is also an option to safely return to ALIUD without contagious symptoms.

---Meg Lagrotta, ALIUD Alternative

ARRIVAL

- Meg will meet students at the front entrance at the designated time to let them in.
- Students will be masked upon entry and remain masked for the duration of the day.
- Students will sanitize their hands as they enter the building.
- The church doors will be locked after the students have entered.
- Upon entering the church, as the tenant Meg will sign in for contact tracing and answer the screening questions. In turn, she will keep a list of student contact tracing while performing daily screening questions & keep on file.
- A minimum of two meters will be maintained. This social distancing space will be adhered to while outside and
 in all areas of the building.
- All personal items, including coats, will be taken to the double classroom.
- May the coat hooks opposite double classroom be used? If yes, they will be sanitized at the end of every day.
 Coats & belongings will be spaced out appropriately.

DURING LEARNING

- All students will maintain a social distance of two meters; tables will be spaced accordingly.
- When weather permits, lunch will be eaten outside with social distancing in place.
- Physical activities will be done outside with social distancing in place.
- If outside, students will re-enter building, with masks on, sanitize hands and proceed back to double classroom.

WASHROOM USE

- Students will use the designated washrooms. High-touch areas will be sanitized.
- If needed, may main floor gender neutral/accessible washroom be used? High-touch areas will be sanitized.
- Students will sanitize hands before entering and wash hands upon exiting the washroom.
- A designated person will sanitize high-touch surfaces, including high touch surfaces in the washroom if used, using disinfectant wipes supplied by the tenant.

END OF DAY

- Tables & chairs and other high-touch areas (light switches, coat hooks) will be disinfected using wipes supplied by tenant.
- With masks remaining on, students will exit through the front entrance of the church.
- Meg will sign out on Parkminster contact tracing sheet and follow lock-up procedures.
- Parents will be asked to meet their children outside. If they need to enter the building, they will be screened, instructed to sign the contact tracing sheet and follow Covid protocols.

ALIUD Alternative has been operating for three years. ALIUD provides an alternative to mainstream high school education, with a learning community that helps students find their own way to be successful in both life and education. There is a very small student base of approx. 10 members (or less), which allows personalized one-on-one instruction. No storage is required as students bring their own technology and supplies and take home at the end of the day.

— Founder/Owner, Meg Lagrotta

The following details have been reviewed & supported by Chair of Property, Bert Blackburn:

RENTAL DATES & FEES

Tuesdays & Thursdays: 10:00am to 3:00pm > double classroom (\$50 per use)

2021 SCHOOL YEAR = Total Rent \$1,400

September: 7, 9, 14, 16, 21, 23, 28, 30 (8 days) = \$400 October: 5, 7, 12, 14, 19, 21, 26, 28 (8 days) = \$400 November: 2, 4, 9, 11, 16, 18, 23, 25, 30 (9 days) = \$450

December: 2, 7, 9 (3 days) = \$150

2022 SCHOOL YEAR = Total Rent \$2,250

January: 4, 6, 11, 13, 18, 20, 25, 27 (8 days) = \$400 February: 1, 3, 8, 10, 15, 17, 22, 24 (8 days) = \$400 March: 1, 3, 8, 10, 15, 17, 29, 31 (8 days) = \$400 April: 5, 7, 12, 14, 19, 21, 26, 28 (8 days) = \$400 May: 3, 5, 10, 12, 17, 19, 24, 26, 31 (9 days) = \$450

June: 2, 7, 9, 14 (4 days) = \$200

First day of school: Sept 7, 2021

December Holiday Break: Dec 13 - 31, 2021

March Break: March 21-25, 2022 Last day of school: June 15, 2022

COVID-19 Safety Protocols attached...