May 14, 2021

JUP Youth Families,

I wanted to forward the letter that went out earlier today from Pastor Susan regarding the changes that the CDC has recommended and that have been approved by our Church Covid Response Team.

Please understand that I will not be asking the youth if they have received the vaccine and I will not tolerate any behavior that suggests bullying or pressure between students whether for or against the vaccine. We will continue to provide a wide table of grace while building relationships with your youth and constantly pointing them back to their Christian faith and their hope in Jesus. I believe strongly in the words, "come as you are". Your child will be loved fiercely and challenged to learn and live a life of faith to everyone around them. Sunday mornings is a great practice field to learn how to love others and a great locker room to get recharged for the next inning/life experience.

Thank you for your continued support of the JUP Youth Ministry and our church family at First UMC of Jupiter.

Kelly

Text

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Dear Church Family,

As most of you know by now, the CDC released updated guidelines yesterday afternoon. When the pandemic first began and the Covid Team was formed, we decided to use the CDC, Palm Beach County Health Department, and the Florida Conference of the United Methodist Church guidelines as our resources for making our local church’s Covid response policy.

Last night, our Covid Team met to discuss the updates. In accordance to the CDC updated guidelines we are making the following changes:

1. If you are vaccinated you do not have to wear a mask. If you are not vaccinated,

we gently ask that you do wear a mask.

 2. We WILL keep the ropes up for social distancing.

 3. We WILL return to congregational singing. If you are vaccinated you may sing, if

you aren't vaccinated we ask that you don't.

Each person and family has to make the decision around vaccinations according to what they believe is best for themselves and their family. I urge us not to add to the voice of judgement on either side of the aisle.

As a church family, our greatest priority is loving one another well and not causing harm to one another. As such, we will trust each one of us to follow these guidelines accordingly. There will not be anyone checking vaccine cards at the door or micromanaging who is singing and who is not.

We understand some people who are vaccinated may still desire to wear a mask and that is ok.

What we do not want to do is create division between those who are vaccinated and those who are not. It is a personal decision and one that we are each entitled to make for ourselves.

I look so forward to being with you all on Sunday where we will confirm 14 young people into the Christian life of faith! We will have live stream and the screens will be back up and running.

Stay healthy and love one another well.

With God’s love,

Pastor Susan