

## **Reopening Task Force Marks One Year of Service**

The Reopening Task Force marked their one year anniversary in July. During 2020-2021, the RFT met over 30 times to evaluate health data, share information about best practices in meetings and worship, and recommend policy and protocols to the council. Below is their latest report. Thank you, Reopening Task Force, for helping keep us safe during the past year!

The Reopening Task Force (RTF) is pleased to report that, as of June 20<sup>th</sup>, the sanctuary has reopened for 9am Sunday in person worship. Other in person ministries have begun meeting, and others are planning for opening this fall.

As many of you may be aware, recent guidance from the CDC recommends mask wearing indoors for both the vaccinated and unvaccinated to help slow the latest rise in Covid cases.

The CT. Department of Public Health has also provided recent guidance strongly recommending all counties, including Hartford, to mask up indoors. This is for both the vaccinated and unvaccinated 2 years of age and up.

For the time being, mask wearing and social distancing will still be expected for all over the age of 2 years attending the in-person sanctuary service. We continue taking this approach to ensure that our more vulnerable populations, including the unvaccinated and children, are safe and protected.

The Task Force will continue to assess this approach as we know more about the trajectory of the pandemic, and as all age categories become eligible for vaccination, recommending revisions to our protocols, as needed.

Outdoor worship was offered at 7pm on Wednesday evenings in June and July. Masks are not required for outdoor events and activities.

Small group ministries and committees may meet indoors and/or outdoors.

- Masks will still be required for all indoor activities.
- Please contact Diane at the office to reserve space in the building or outdoors.

The church building is open to the public. The building is open during office hours, Monday – Friday 9 am – 4pm. Please ring the office door bell for admittance if the door is locked. Masks are required for all regardless of vaccination status.

The Reopening Task Force will continue to monitor the evolving guidance from the CDC and State of Connecticut, and will continue to provide recommendations to Council as additional updates become warranted.