

# Augusta First Church

## Meeting Guidelines

In the New Testament, we are repeatedly instructed to submit ourselves to the governing authorities unless they order us to do something that violates our faith. In order to honor the teachings of Jesus and God's Word, Augusta First Church desires to do our best in following the guidelines provided by the CDC and the State of Maine. (Reference: Romans 13:1-7; 1 Peter 2:11-17; Titus 3:1-2).

We also wish to remind our Church family that we, as Christ followers, have been instructed to consider the needs of others before our own. In relation to COVID 19, we should be willing to endure some discomfort or inconvenience, in order to protect those among us who are most at risk.

*Don't be concerned for your own good but for the good of others.*  
*1 Corinthians 10:24* (NLT)

### ➤ Outdoor Gatherings

- Must follow current State Social Distancing protocols  
(Capacity/crowd-size limits, 6 ft. spacing, no physical contact, etc.)
- Masks are required for all attendees
- Establish seating with 6 ft. distances between "family units"
  - Attendees are to bring their own seating
  - "Family Unit" is defined as household family members and/or people who arrived in shared vehicles
- Bathrooms will be available
  - Limited to one person (or parent/child) at a time
  - Must sanitize all touched surfaces using provided cleaning products after use.
- Physical activities (outdoor games)
  - Masks are required at a times
- Food/beverages
  - Individuals may bring personal coffees/drinks/food if desired, not to be shared
  - It is recommended that any food/beverages provided to attendees be individually prepackaged.
  - If prepared food is to be served, it should be handled only by designated preparers/servers
    - Preparers/Servers must wear gloves & mask when handling food





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### ➤ Indoor Gatherings

(including Adult Small Groups, Youth Group & Children's Ministry)

- Must follow current State Social Distancing protocols  
(Capacity/crowd-size, 6 ft. spacing, no physical contact, etc.)
- Sanitize hands when entering building & as often as needed
- Masks are required for all people entering the building, and **worn at all times**
- Indoor Building use will be limited to the Sanctuary, Fellowship Hall, and restrooms.
  - Classroom use will be approved as needed.
- Seating will be arranged to support social distancing, with 6 ft. spacing clusters made up of Family Units
  - "Family Unit" is defined as household family members and/or people who arrived in shared vehicles.
- When using the Fellowship Hall, people should enter/exit through the lower entry
- People must stay in the areas designated for that gathering
- Restrooms are single occupancy (or parent/child)
  - Please sanitize all touched areas after use (sanitizer is provided)
- Food/beverages
  - Individuals may bring personal coffees/drinks/food if desired, not to be shared
  - It is recommended that any food/beverages provided to attendees be individually prepackaged.
  - If prepared food is to be served, it should be handled only by designated preparers/servers
    - Preparers/Servers must wear gloves & mask when handling food
- All areas of the building that are used must be properly sanitized, using provided sanitizing products. Proper sanitization will include: chairs, tables, doorknobs, light switches, and any other surface/object that may have been touched during building use.





# Augusta First Church

## Worship Guidelines

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### ➤ Worship Services

- Must follow current State Social Distancing protocols  
(Capacity/crowd-size, 6 ft. spacing, no physical contact, etc.)
- Sanitize hands when entering building & as often as needed
- Masks are required for all people entering the building, and **worn at all times**
- Indoor Building use will be limited to the Sanctuary, Fellowship Hall, and restrooms.
  - Classroom use will be approved as needed.
- Seating will be arranged to support social distancing, with 6 ft. spacing clusters made up of Family Units
  - "Family Unit" is defined as household family members and/or people who arrived in shared vehicles.
- When using the Fellowship Hall, people should enter/exit through the lower entry
- People must stay in the areas designated for that gathering
- Restrooms are single occupancy (or parent/child)
  - Please sanitize all touched areas after use (sanitizer is provided)
- Food/beverages
  - Individuals may bring personal coffees/drinks/food if desired, not to be shared
  - It is recommended that any food/beverages provided to attendees be individually prepackaged.
  - If prepared food is to be served, it should be handled only by designated preparers/servers
    - Preparers/Servers must wear gloves & mask when handling food
- The Altar will be open for individuals coming forward for prayer.
  - Assigned Altar Attendants will be available to pray with anyone who desires prayer.
  - Worshipper & Altar Attendant must wear masks and use sanitizer, if contact occurs
  - There will be a designated space for individuals who choose to pray alone.
- Parents should follow PraiseTown's Check-in Procedures at the lower entry before parking and entering the Church building.
- All areas of the building that are used must be properly sanitized, using provided sanitizing products. Proper sanitization will include chairs, tables, doorknobs, light switches, and any other surface/object that may have been touched during building use.