

July 23, 2021

Dear Bethlehem Friends,


Bethlehem's Re-Opening Team* met on Monday, July 19 and affirmed the following steps as we continue to loosen restrictions around how gatherings take place at Bethlehem.

- Capacity limits in the sanctuary have been lifted and pews will no longer be roped off. We ask individuals and households to continue to practice distancing reflective of their vaccination status and to respect the needs of those around you. We continue to wear masks when in the sanctuary and while moving through the building.
- Individuals will no longer be asked to sign-in for worship or other public gatherings. Meeting organizers are asked to continue tracking the attendance of those attending meetings and to clean spaces and wipe down surfaces after gathering. All meetings should be scheduled, and spaces reserved through the Church Office - <https://blcfairport.org/blc-facility-request/>
- As we resume communion on the first and third Sunday of the month, beginning August 1 we will no longer offer a time for worshipers to come to Bethlehem to receive communion apart from our scheduled worship time. People who are not physically able to worship at Bethlehem are asked to contact the pastors to make arrangements for Eucharistic visitors.

Because our community includes people who do not yet have access to vaccines, we continue to ask all individuals to wear masks while moving through the building and when in worship. Small groups using our facilities are welcome to determine together whether they will continue to wear masks while in their meeting space. In addition, we continue to encourage food to be shared in outdoor spaces.

The Re-Opening Team will meet next on August 10 to consider next steps.

In Christ –



Rick Walker
Council President



The Rev. Amy Walter-Peterson
Pastor



The Rev. Abigail Zang Hoffman
Pastor

*Re-Opening Team members are:

Matt Beutel, Brian Edwards, Margie Gaul, Kristina Henry, Julie Owen, Bob Stolze, Rick Walker, Pastor Amy

