

Guidelines for Outdoor Gatherings

May 2021

St. Peter's COVID Safety Team recommends either wearing face masks or social distancing for outdoor gatherings.

The CDC has defined three basic ways (in addition to good cleaning and hygiene) to mitigate COVID risks for groups of people that will or may involve unvaccinated and/or otherwise high risk people (even if they are vaccinated). The three basic mitigations are 1) be outdoors; 2) social distance; and 3) wear a facial covering.

The COVID Safety team is recommending that St. Peter's follow a 2-out-of-3 approach whenever groups are gathered, whether that is indoors or outdoors. This is based on guidance developed by the Wisconsin Council of Churches and their group of experts. We are also recommending that all gatherings need to be considered a mix of unvaccinated, vaccinated, and high-risk individuals, thus our recommendations are intended to offer protection to the unvaccinated and otherwise COVID-vulnerable people attending our gatherings.

For outdoor gatherings, we recommend that individuals in the group commit to either social distance or wear a facial covering. If people choose not to wear a facial covering, we ask them to stay socially distant from others not in their family unit, regardless of their vaccination status.

Empathy, grace, and open communication will be important for all of us to navigate the uncertainties and the ever-changing guidance and status of the pandemic in our community. Please consider how you may practice this as a form of Welcome and what it means to Be the Church as we all walk this path.