



Lake Nokomis
Lutheran Church

COVID-19 safety guidelines

updated March 16, 2021

COVID-19 numbers are leveling off in many states in the United States. On Friday, March 12 Governor Walz shared that Minnesota's positivity rate has plateaued after several weeks of decline. Minnesota's vaccination rate as of March 16 is at 13% – with the goal of reaching 70-80 percent.

Based on this latest information, Governor Walz also announced he is easing some restrictions across the state, while urging us to exercise extreme caution when planning activities accordingly. ***Wear a mask, keep a safe distance and wash your hands often and thoroughly.***

At Lake Nokomis Lutheran, these Guidelines are updated in accordance with State of MN Dept. of Health guidelines. We're almost at a time when we can begin to worship indoors together safely – however, ***we're also being cautioned by the CDC and public health experts that the next 30-45 days are critical to avoid another surge in cases.*** We continue to plan safe ways we can connect for worship and fellowship. As it becomes safer to gather in person, indoors, we are preparing to have protocols in place to do so. While we wait for more of us to become vaccinated, we remain consistent in our commitment to caring for one another.

The building continues to be closed except for essential church business. The office is open to scheduled staff only.

In the church building the following safety precautions ***remain in effect:***

- **The building remains closed** to meetings and gatherings – with the exception of those meetings or gatherings that cannot be held via Zoom.
- If you have an essential need related to the church and need to be in the building, **schedule your visit through Sue Hamre, office@lakenokomis.org.**
- **Staff will continue to** stagger work times whenever possible.
- Use **one of two entrances: the office door (door #4), and Keewaydin/Sacristy door (door #1).**
- Use the sanitizers and masks provided if you do not have your own.
- Sign in and out at the entrance to the door. Staff must keep a log of their time in the building. *This is especially important as the school side of the building is open and students are back in the building Monday through Fridays.*
- **Face masks must be worn by everyone while in the building**, except for staff in their private office spaces.

The COVID-19 Task Force includes Barb Tauferner, Pastor Sara Spohr, William Awe, Mark Patzloff, Jodi Gustafson, Sue Hamre, and Erica Larson.