COVID UPDATE

November, 2021

Friends,

We are constantly monitoring the latest information and insights related to the Covid pandemic. And we continue to adjust our Covid protocols as needed.   We appreciate all the care and concern and diligence our members and leadership have taken to keep yourselves and each other safe.  Here is what we know:

* The incidence of Covid positivity is down.  As is the severity of symptoms for those who have been vaccinated.
* The vaccination rate in our community continues to be high.   Close to 80% of our town has been at least partially vaccinated and over 2/3rds have been fully vaccinated.
* Booster shots are now being distributed and new treatments are being approved.
* Younger children can now receive the vaccine.
* Still, if you are exposed it can be a significant inconvenience and health hazard for you and loved ones as you quarantine and await test results.
* While we are exploring air filtration, we are also at the time of year when it is too cold to maintain outdoor ventilation into the building.
* Massachusetts state guidance offers:  "Unvaccinated as well as fully vaccinated individuals are advised to wear a mask or face covering when indoors."

Therefore, we are continuing to ask people to wear masks while gathering for worship.  We invite committees to use good diligence and wisdom in determining mask use during meetings.  We will continue to provide faith formation materials for families and children for at home use.

Please remain home if you are exhibiting any Covid or flu related symptoms to reduce the chance of spread.

Thank you for all you are doing to bring an end to the pandemic and keep each other safe.

Rev. Don Remick