

REGIONAL COVID-19 POLICY
CHRISTIAN CHURCH (DISCIPLES OF CHRIST) CAPITAL AREA
(REVISED JANUARY 2023)

Our prayers go out to the individuals and families who have been affected by the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic. We appreciate the various healthcare and government agencies (local, county, state, federal) and their front-line employees who are working daily to control and contain the coronavirus. This policy is intended to enhance those efforts.

In general, this policy applies to all Region-sponsored, Region-wide events of an in-person nature. However, it has particular application to camp and conference activities that are a part of our ministry, including internal and external retreat groups that use our CCCA Conference Center and/or CCCA rented facilities. The health and safety of participants in such settings is of paramount concern. The most current recommendations of the World Health Organization (WHO), the Center for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), and government agencies will be followed.

Guiding Principles

- A. Vaccinations
 - 1. Participants of in-person gatherings (Region-sponsored programs and events, internal and external camp and retreat groups, facility rental users, etc.) are encouraged to be fully vaccinated, including appropriate booster shots, consistent with the current recommendations of health and government agencies that are applicable to each age group (children, youth, adults).
- B. The use of masks is required for any unvaccinated participants, including staff and volunteers, at indoor gatherings. N95 grade masks are highly recommended, but KN95 and Hospital/Surgical Style are acceptable.
 - 1. The administrators of the gathering reserve the right to request proof of vaccination.
 - 2. Any unvaccinated participant unwilling to wear a mask may be asked to leave the gathering.
 - 3. Masks may be removed while eating in designated areas, while participating in outdoor recreational opportunities, and while sleeping.
 - 4. Mask requirements while off of CCCA property (owned or rented) are controlled by the local jurisdiction or the State in which the event is being held. For example, unless otherwise prohibited, the Town of Bethany Beach may have supplemental Mask Mandates that are more or less restrictive than the State's policy with regards to wearing masks in areas off the CCCA Conference Center. We ask that participants maintain awareness of local Mask policies and adhere to them for the safety of all other CCCA event participants over the course of the event.
- C. Admittance to CCCA events and events at CCCA facilities depend on each participant's health status.

1. Participants (including staff and volunteers) must not attend if they have tested positive for COVID-19 *in the past 5 days* or [in accordance with the most current CDC guidelines](#);
 2. Participants (including staff and volunteers) should take a COVID-19 test and receive negative results before their registered event if they are experiencing or have recently experienced any of these [symptoms](#):
 - a. Fever or chills
 - b. Cough
 - c. Shortness of breath or difficulty breathing
 - d. Fatigue
 - e. Muscle or body aches
 - f. Headache
 - g. New loss of taste or smell
 - h. Sore throat
 - i. Congestion or runny nose
 - j. Nausea or vomiting
 - k. Diarrhea
 3. The administrators of the gathering reserve the right to perform a “rapid test” of any participant displaying any of the symptoms above.
 - a. If a person’s test result is positive regarding COVID-19, the individual will be disallowed participation. Individuals considered to be a close-contact will be notified as soon as possible by either the Conference Center Manager or your Group Leader.
 - b. Rapid tests will be available at the Christian Church Conference Center for this purpose.
- D. Before and after each gathering, all surfaces should be disinfected (door handles, sinks/faucets, drinking fountains, kitchen prep areas, tables, chairs, toys/games, etc.);
1. Multi-day gatherings should include a schedule for disinfecting all areas prior to departure.
 2. Staff and volunteers who remove trash should wash hands with soap after returning.
 3. Disinfectant supplies will be provided by the region and available at the Christian Church Conference Center.
- E. Event leaders are expected to teaching/remind all participants of some simple etiquette during the gathering to help further ensure the health and safety of all participants
1. (e.g., when sneezing or coughing to do so by covering mouths with the interior of their arm and using tissues, disposing the tissue, then washing hands with soap and water for at least 20 seconds).
 2. Hand soap, hand sanitizer, disposable paper towels, and tissues will be provided by the region and available at the Christian Church Conference Center.
- F. Food provided at any gathering may preferably be pre-packaged in boxes or bags; exceptions can be made for CCCA Conference Center-based Regionally sponsored Camps, Conferences, and Retreats and Church Group Retreats, where the Center staff prepare the meals.