

Spirit of Grace COVID Building Usage Policy

The following policy was written based on guidelines from the [UMC](#) and [ELCA](#). When rising cases lead to an increased risk category, mitigations and restrictions are adopted immediately. When cases lessen and lead to a decreased risk category, cases must stay within that range for a minimum of one week before mitigations and restrictions can be lessened.

Decisions made based on data distributed by [COVID ActNow](#).

SEVERE (> 90 per 100K)

The church building is closed to all non-essential business
All meetings and gatherings will be held via Zoom
Worship will be held via Zoom

EXTREME (75-90 per 100K)

The church building is closed to all non-essential business
All meetings will be held via Zoom
Worship Options

- Outdoors: masked, distanced, singing, no communion
- Zoom

CRITICAL (25-75 per 100K)

The church building is open for limited usage

- no meetings or gatherings may exceed 60 min.
- no communal food consumption

Meetings may be held in person or via Zoom based on comfort and convenience

Worship Options

- Outdoors: masked, distanced, singing, no communion
- Indoors: masked, no singing, no communion, no fellowship
- Zoom

HIGH (10-25 per 100K)

The church building is open for regular use - masks required.
Meetings may be held in person or via Zoom based on comfort and convenience

Worship Options

- Outdoors: masked, distanced, singing and communion allowed
- Indoors: masked, 1 brief sending song, no communion, no fellowship
- Zoom

MEDIUM (1-10 per 100K)

The church building is open for regular use - masks required.
Meetings may be held in person or via Zoom based on comfort and convenience

Worship Options

- Outdoors: distanced, singing and communion allowed
- Indoors: masked, singing and communion allowed with masks and distancing, fellowship (outdoors preferred, indoors under 30 min)

Caution-Based Exceptions

*Exceptions favoring more cautious restrictions may be made when the risk level based on cases has lessened, but the **infection rate exceeds 1.1%** and the **positive test rate exceeds 5%**. In these cases, church leadership may decide to hold off on lessening restrictions.*