



LIVING WORD

LUTHERAN CHURCH

COVID-19 Protocol (revised 14JAN2022)

For all Groups and Ministries that use our spaces it is more important than ever that we adhere to COVID protocols recommended by Texas Health and Human Services and the CDC. This ensures the safety of all our members and staff. These Guidelines apply to all groups using the Living Word Lutheran Church Facilities including outside groups, church member lead ministries, and staff lead ministries. Guidelines are as follows:

- Whether or not you are not fully vaccinated, we strongly encourage you to wear a mask in all indoor public places, especially when around those who are vulnerable.
- Social Distance is recommended whenever possible
- To protect staff, ministries and congregation, stay home if you are waiting COVID test results following an actual or suspected COVID exposure.
- Complete a Self-Screening before leaving home. If you have one or more of the following symptoms, please stay home.
 - Temperature of 100°F or more
 - Loss of taste or smell
 - Cough
 - Difficulty breathing or shortness of breath
 - Headache
 - Chills
 - Sore Throat
 - Congestion or runny nose
 - Nausea or vomiting
 - Exaggerated shivering
 - Significant muscle pain or ache



- Diarrhea
- Practice Proper Hygiene
 - Wash hands for 20 seconds with soap and water as frequently as possible
 - When hand washing is not available hand sanitizer will be available in all public areas and the utilization is highly encouraged as needed.
- Limit sharing and frequent touching of items.
- Monitor absenteeism and create a roster of trained back-up staff.
 - If an event attendee tested positive for COVID-19 – With or Without Symptoms the MINISTRY/GROUP LEADER is responsible for contacting all who were present at the event and the Director of Operation and the Office Administrator via email
 - michaelmcdonnell@livingwordkaty.org
galirivera@livingwordkaty.org
 - Identify a location to isolate anyone who shows symptoms of COVID-19 during hours of operation and ensure that children are not left without adult supervision.
 - If COVID-19 Rapid Antigen Test Kits are available, consider using to verify symptoms.

If you are having a hard time finding a test and are in need of testing, please contact Gali Rivera or Michael McDonnell for assistance.

- We encourage staff or congregants who are sick or who have had close contact with a person with COVID-19 to stay home in accordance with the revised CDC guidelines.
 - CDC has shortened the recommended time for isolation for the public. People **with** COVID-19 should isolate for 5 days and if they are asymptomatic or their symptoms are resolving (without



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fever for 24 hours), follow that by 5 days of wearing a mask when around others to minimize the risk of infecting people they encounter.

- CDC has updated the recommended quarantine period for anyone in the general public who is **exposed** to COVID-19. For people who are unvaccinated or are more than six months out from their second mRNA dose (or more than 2 months after the J&J vaccine) and not yet boosted, CDC now recommends quarantine for 5 days followed by strict mask use for an additional 5 days.
- All Ministry/Group leaders are required to provide a clean environment for those in their groups.
 - Every common or conference room is supplied with disinfecting wipes, sprays, and towels.
 - Wipe all high-touch surfaces and items after use with provided supplies.
- Spaces are fogged with an approved viricide solution on a weekly basis. Fogging will be performed more often as required.
- Food and drinks are not encouraged but if brought please exercise precautions
 - PPE should always be used when distributing any items for consumption.
 - Consider using prepackaged options
 - Use a serve yourself style meal only if all obtaining food are wearing PPE.

Thank you for your cooperation to provide a safe and secure environment for all to enjoy. If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to reach out to our office at 281-392-2300. The following links have been used for this protocol and provide further details.

<https://www.cdc.gov/media/releases/2021/s1227-isolation-quarantine-guidance.html>

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/community/faith-based.html>



The following grid is from the CDC guidelines for COVID exposure 27DEC2021:

If You Test Positive for COVID-19 (Isolate)

Everyone, regardless of vaccination status.

- Stay home for 5 days.
- If you have no symptoms or your symptoms are resolving after 5 days, you can leave your house.
- Continue to wear a mask around others for 5 additional days.

If you have a fever, continue to stay home until your fever resolves.

If You Were Exposed to Someone with COVID-19 (Quarantine)

If you:

Have been boosted

OR

Completed the primary series of Pfizer or Moderna vaccine within the last 6 months

OR

Completed the primary series of J&J vaccine within the last 2 months

- Wear a mask around others for 10 days.
- Test on day 5, if possible.

If you develop symptoms get a test and stay home.

If you:

Completed the primary series of Pfizer or Moderna vaccine over 6 months ago and are not boosted

OR

Completed the primary series of J&J over 2 months ago and are not boosted

OR

Are unvaccinated

- Stay home for 5 days. After that continue to wear a mask around others for 5 additional days.
- If you can't quarantine you must wear a mask for 10 days.
- Test on day 5 if possible.

If you develop symptoms get a test and stay home