

March 1, 2022
28 Adar I 5782

The COVID-19 Task Force recently met to review our current operating procedures, along with data from the CDC and Illinois Department of Public Health.

As of March 1, we are updating our COVID policies.

- **For general services, gatherings and programs;** masks will now be optional and we can begin eating together as a community. (Please see note below about Sundays.)
- **Share Shabbat;** While we are unable to shift our Share Shabbat to an in person meal for March 4th (this Friday), we will be able to have Share Shabbat in person beginning in April.
- **Religious School teachers and students;** We ask all adults entering the building on Sundays to stay masked until further notice

How, and when, will we reopen?

Emanuel works in collaboration with our COVID task force, CDC guidelines, City of Chicago guidelines, and Chicago-area synagogues to put best practices in place, keeping everyone's safety top of mind. This includes our congregants, our staff, and all visitors.

Please read below for the update on Emanuel's reopening guidelines, which are applicable to all on-site and off-site Emanuel events.

Current Specifics (as of March 1 2022):

We can begin hosting meetings and gatherings with masks optional beginning March 1. If you would like to schedule a time for a meeting, please contact the office.

For anyone who has Temple business and needs to enter the office, please contact the Emanuel office to schedule a date and time. This will allow us to control the number of people in the building and ensure we are available to help you.

Worship Services, Gatherings and Events

For all worship services, congregational or general gatherings and events, we will continue to be in-person, with live streaming available.

We are working as diligently as possible to enhance our streaming capabilities to continue to keep our virtual doors open so that all worship and programming being held within the physical building will continue in an online format whenever possible.

Religious School

Teachers and students of ECRS (Emanuel Congregation Religious School) will continue to stay masked during classes and ECRS related activities. We ask all adults entering our building on Sunday to stay masked until further notice.

Respecting All Choices

Please remember to be respectful of everyone's individual choices regarding masks, handshaking and personal space

Thank you for your participation in keeping our congregants, staff, and visitors safe and respecting all personal choices.

Sincerely,

Emanuel Congregation COVID-19 Task Force

David Rakofsky, Temple President

Cantor Michelle Drucker Friedman

Sarabeth Salzman, Executive Director