

# NORWAY GROVE

## Memorial Lutheran Church

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Norway Grove Memorial Lutheran Church

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### Covid & Worship Update – Wednesday, May 19th

Thursday, May 12, 2021, the CDC released new guidelines which are less restrictive in regards to mask wearing and gathering in person. Tuesday, May 18, 2021 Dane County Public Medical Health (DCPMH) has provided updated guidelines effective June 2, 2021.

According to the CDC, mask wearing is not required, yet as the Wisconsin Council of Churches state, congregational singing is not factored into that decision. WCC has recommended an [approach of 2 out of 3](#), keeping in mind that the 'three' are comprised of 1) gathering in person, indoors, 2) wearing masks, 3) physical distancing.

Also, according to the DCPMH, effective June 2, all public health orders will be lifted, and people are to follow the rules & policies set forth by each organization.

**Effective this Sunday, May 23, 2021**, the NGMLC Council has approved the following actions,

#### **We will CONTINUE to:**

- Meet in person indoors
- Wear masks. This will prevent us from excluding anyone from worship if they have not been vaccinated or make anyone prove that they have been vaccinated

#### **CHANGES we will be making:**

- We no longer need to adhere to physical distancing which means signing up prior to worship is no longer needed.
- Limited congregational singing will resume.

COVID-19 is still a new virus with devastating results, especially when we consider that over [550,000](#) families in the USA will miss a loved one while celebrating the upcoming holiday. With that said, we continue to monitor the number of positive cases so we can take appropriate action when needed.

As a reminder, in March 2021 council approved our COVID-19 Policy which states that education and limited fellowship will not occur in the building until we reach Phase Green.

While we have different comfort levels, as a community we live together remembering Paul's advisement for Christians, "knowledge puffs up, but love builds up" and that Christians should "take care that your liberty does not somehow become a stumbling block to the weak." (1 Cor. 8:1, 9). And we do this because, again as Paul notes in Ephesians 4" lead a life worthy of the calling to which you have been called, with all humility and gentleness, with patience, bearing with one another in love, making every effort to maintain the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace."

– Ephesians 4:1-3

Thank you for your continued patience during this time.

Christ's Blessing & Peace,

Pr. Stacy