

Unitarian Society of Germantown

Use of Outdoor Space during the coronavirus pandemic

As approved by the Board of Trustees, September 22, 2020

USG is now allowing limited use of its outdoor space, as follows. These requirements will be revised according to the best judgment of USG leaders as the public health situation evolves and governmental policies are updated. They are subject to change without notice. It must be recognized that even with precautions, it is possible that there may be exposure to Covid-19 at a USG outdoor meeting.

Participants acknowledge this risk when choosing to meet at USG.

Who can use USG outdoor space

At this time, USG outdoor space may be used only by adults in connection with USG activities, such as meetings of USG committees and groups (such as Small Group Ministries, needlework, Adult Spiritual Development, Earth Honoring Traditions, etc.). It is not required that the adults be members of USG as long as it is a USG activity. There will be no provision for child care.

What is required for a meeting on USG property

No more than 12 attendees will be permitted at this time.

Bathrooms are not available at this time.

No chairs will be provided.

There will be no food at the meeting.

No communal singing is allowed.

The group must designate a leader. The leader will be responsible for

- Scheduling the space (see below for how to schedule)
- Informing all attendees of all conditions and requirements in advance of the meeting
- Making a record of who attends, including the participant's cell phone number, address, and email, unless this information is in USG's Breeze database, and providing this information to the USG administrator. If the leader wishes, the leader can ask the USG office to confirm whether a participant's information is in the Breeze database.
- Enforcing mask and social distance requirements (leader or their delegate)
- Informing USG administrator if anyone attending the group develops symptoms of Covid-19, or is diagnosed with Covid-19, within 14 days of attending the meeting.
- The MET will decide how to handle notification of participants if someone is positive for Covid-19.

Participant requirements:

- The group Leader will communicate the rules to all the participants. Participants are responsible for following the rules. Participants may not attend if they have been diagnosed with Covid-19 within the last 14 days; have been experiencing any symptoms of Covid-19 (including fever, cough, sore throat, trouble breathing, fatigue, new loss of taste or smell, muscle pain, chills, nausea or vomiting, diarrhea); have been in contact with anyone in the last 14 days who has tested positive for Covid-19 or had symptoms of Covid-19; or have traveled outside the United States within the last 14 days; have been in any of the “hot spot” states in the past 14 days (the PA public health site has a list).
- Participants must wear masks that cover the nose and mouth, and must stay at least 6 feet apart.
- Participants must agree that if they develop symptoms of Covid-19 or are diagnosed with Covid-19 within the next 14 days after the meeting, they will report this to the designated group leader, to be reported to USG.
- Participants may bring their own chairs, or use benches or other features that are on the property. There are some benches in the labyrinth area, and people also may sit on the walls around the Memorial Garden. It will be the responsibility of participants to sanitize the benches or walls before using them if they wish to do so.

What outdoor space at USG is available for a meeting

Depending on the size and needs of the group, and what else is going on, the following spaces on the USG grounds may be available. When you schedule your meeting, you will be informed if any of the outdoor spaces are unavailable. Please note that some of these are not accessible to persons who are mobility impaired. Please select your space with the accessibility needs of your group in mind.

- The courtyard off Lincoln Drive. Note you will need to access this from the outside. If you park in the rear parking lot, you will have to walk around the exterior of the church.
- The entire grove. This includes the area adjacent to the Memorial Garden, path, and driveway, all the way up to the building.
- The wooded area, where the labyrinth is located. Please note that this area is not wheelchair accessible, and must be accessed from the Memorial Garden or the parking lot. There may be mosquitoes or other bugs.
- The parking lot.

How to reserve space for a USG meeting outdoors

To reserve space, the leader should send an email to communications@usguu.org.