

Use of Outdoor Space during COVID – Update June 2021

June 4, 2021

USG is expanding the permitted use of its outdoor space in accordance with updated public health guidance and state and local mandates. The USG requirements will continue to 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.*

Application of UU principles and values

We continue to be committed to including all who wish to participate in USG life. We must recognize that not everyone who attends USG or USG events will be vaccinated against COVID. There will be some who cannot get vaccinated (including children under 12 at this time), and others who choose not to do so. All are welcome.

In addition, some of us may have different levels of comfort in connection with COVID precautions. Those who choose to wear a mask or observe social distancing will be treated with acceptance and respect, whether or not masking or social distancing is required by this protocol.

People will not be asked their vaccination status, and USG will not verify anyone's vaccination status. If it is not known that everyone in a group has been fully vaccinated, it will be assumed they are not.

Who can use USG outdoor space

USG outdoor space is open for USG activities involving children and adults, subject to the following conditions.

What is required for a USG gathering outdoors

Reservations are necessary if the group has 6 or more people, or if a group of any size wants a specific space.

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
- Enforcing any mask and social distance requirements (leader or their delegate)

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, or 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).
- ***Participants who have not been fully vaccinated*** may not attend if they 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.

No chairs will be provided. Attendees may bring their own chairs.

Participants can bring their own food. There will be no use of the kitchen.

Bathrooms inside the church will be available if needed.

Social distance of six feet from everyone other than members of the household is required unless everyone in the group has been fully vaccinated.

Masks will no longer be required for people ages 12 and up. However, masks are strongly encouraged for people who have not been fully vaccinated, or in groups where it is not certain that everyone has been fully vaccinated. Fully vaccinated means the participant is two weeks past the second Pfizer or Moderna shot, or two weeks past the single Johnson & Johnson shot. And remember, some of us may choose to wear masks even if we have been vaccinated.

Masks are required for children age 11 and younger.

Singing outdoors is allowed if at least two of the following three criteria are met. It will be assumed that some people who are singing may not have been vaccinated:

- High quality masks
- Distance of at least 6 feet between participants who are not in the same household (already required in this protocol)
- Duration of no more than 30 minutes

If an entire group of singers is fully vaccinated, they may sing outdoors without masks, provided they stand at least 3 feet apart, and at least 6 feet from anyone who has not been fully vaccinated.

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 or complete the application found on the USG website at <https://usguu.org/members-online/request-meeting-space/>