

Unitarian Society of Germantown

Use of Outdoor Space During the Pandemic

11/19/2021 update

The USG protocol for indoor meetings has been updated in consideration of the status of the pandemic and guidelines from the CDC and UUA. It will continue to be revised according to the best judgment of USG leaders as the COVID-19 public health situation evolves and governmental policies are updated. The requirements 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 USG. Participants acknowledge this risk when choosing to meet at USG.

We recommend that everyone who comes to the church be fully vaccinated, if eligible. Children who are not yet eligible to be vaccinated may attend with parents or adult family members. We warmly invite you to join us on Zoom if you are not fully vaccinated. And please get vaccinated if you are eligible.

Application of UU principles and values

Evidence-based public health guidance, coupled with our UU values, form the basis upon which we make decisions about in-person gatherings. We recognize that there will be many different views in the congregation. We nonetheless commit to following USG pandemic safety protocols and treating each other with kindness and respect.

General health requirement

Please stay home if you are feeling unwell or have been exposed to somebody who has had a positive test for COVID or suspected COVID within the past two weeks. If you are fully vaccinated and had a negative COVID test 3 to 5 days after your exposure, you are clear to attend.

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

NOTE: Child Spiritual Development (CSD) may have more restrictive requirements for CSD events outdoors.

Masks

In accordance with guidance from the City of Philadelphia, people who are not vaccinated or are not fully vaccinated are asked to wear masks indoors and outdoors when around others. Fully vaccinated people will not be required to wear masks outdoors, except during worship services. However, masks are strongly encouraged 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.

Physical distancing

We ask that you keep six feet of space between units or pods, regardless of whether people are vaccinated.

Bathrooms and kitchen

Bathrooms inside the building will be available if needed. Please limit occupancy to no more than 3 people or one pod in the bathroom at one time.

The kitchen may be used only to get a drink of water if needed.

Singing outdoors

Singing is the subject of a separate protocol. Please consult the protocol on singing.

Reservations

Reservations are necessary for scheduled meetings or events. To reserve space, the leader should complete the application found on the USG website at <https://usguu.org/members-online/request-meeting-space/> or send an email to communications@usguu.org.

Leader responsibilities

Please have the group 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)

Eating and drinking outdoors

The rules about masks and physical distancing still apply. Masks may be removed while actually eating or drinking.