FPCY Reopening Guide—Fall 2021



Dear FPCY Family,

After much prayerful consideration and evaluation of where we are in our community with regards to the constantly evolving COVID-19 situation, the Session has decided that we will continue with our plans to open our church to in-person Worship and Faith Formation classes beginning in September (see inside). Over these last 18 months, we have learned that being flexible and ready to shift with little notice to adhere to the many protocol changes will be key as your health, both physical and spiritual, is our utmost concern. The pandemic is not over and likely won't be for some time, but we will continue to trust the advice of our scientists and doctors and to make common sense decisions to offer in-person, hybrid and remote opportunities for spiritual growth as we are able.

Enclosed is our current fall schedule. On the back page you will find our current Covid protocols with the caveat that they may need to change. We thank you for the many ways you have stayed connected with your FPCY family in this most challenging season. We look forward to seeing you inperson as soon as you are comfortable

See You in Church! Chip & Tami

Fall Schedule/Programming



September 12

Worship & Picnic

10:30am Worship Service in the Sanctuary
(in-person and online)

Bring Your Own Picnic to eat together
outside following the service

September 19

Blessing of the Backpacks
Return to a 2-service schedule



Sunday Worship—New times—8:00am and 10:30am

After the last 18 months apart, we are so happy to welcome you back to our Sanctuary to worship together! For those wishing to continue worshipping remotely, our 10:30 service will be streamed on our Facebook page.

Coffee Hour—after each worship service

As we continue to adapt to Covid precautions and our kitchen is being remodeled, our Congregational Life team will be offering refreshments either outside or in the Gathering Space.

Music Ministry

We are more that ready to make music together again!

Starting 9/2

Bell choir: Thursdays 6:45-8pm

Choir: Thursdays 8-9:30pm

Starting 9/5

Good Samaritones: Sundays 12pm-1pm

September 26

Faith Formation Kick-off

Faith Formation for all ages, Sundays at 9:15am

Sunday School (children pre-K and up)

Shine, Connect, FaithX, Confirmation

Younger children – 4th grade and younger – will have classes outdoors as the weather permits. Older students

will meet indoors, observing distancing and proper safety protocols.

All students and teachers will be required to wear masks. Additional information about our programs for children and youth have been emailed to families; check your email for more details.



Faith4Life (adult opportunities)

Faith4Life opportunities for adults abound this fall, with in-person and remote options. Please see the newsletter for more details about topics and groups.

Sundays—9:15am and 7:00pm

Tuesdays—10:00am

Thursdays—10:00am

Women's Circle—1st Wed. of the month, 10:30 am, starts Oct 6

Men's Breakfast – 3rd Saturday of the month, 8:00 am

Youth Group—This year, barring any new restrictions, we look forward to more in-person opportunities to gather, study, play, and grow in our Faith together.

HS Youth Group—2nd & 4th Sunday, starts Sep 26
MS Youth Group—2nd & 4th Wednesday, starts Oct 13

CrossGen Wednesdays—the First Wednesday of each month, 5-7pm (starting in November)

Join with faithful folk of all ages for food, fellowship and faith formation. This is a wonderful opportunity for children, youth and adults to grow in faith together.

Covid Protocols

- 1) Prescreening—Please DO NOT come to the church if:
 - ⇒ you have been in close contact with someone confirmed or suspected of having Covid-19.
 - ⇒ you have any of the following symptoms: cold or cough, fever, sore throat, nausea or diarrhea, tiredness, difficulty breathing, etc. Please join us via livestream or hybrid options until it is safe to return.
- 2) Mask Policy—Until further notice, masks are REQUIRED for everyone over age 2 inside the building at all times regardless of vaccination status. Masks should cover both your nose and mouth. While we hope all attendees are vaccinated, some of our youngest members are not yet eligible, and we want to provide as safe an environment as possible for all folks in our faith family.

3) Worship

- ⇒ Everyone must sign in with name and contact information upon entering the Sanctuary.
- ⇒ Masks must be worn during worship services.
- ⇒ The balcony will be available for unvaccinated members & visitors.
- **4) Choir and Music Policies**—Musicians will practice the same mask and social distancing practices as the congregation.

5) Faith Formation Classes

- ⇒ Masks are required at all in-person faith formation activities.
- ⇒ Children (4th grade & younger) will meet outside as weather permits.
- ⇒ Hybrid options will be available for indoor classes/groups.
- ⇒ For all activities involving children and youth, we will follow NYS Department of Education guidelines.

