



## **COVID-19 Protocol: September 2, 2021**

We are continuing to do the best we can with the information that's provided. Over the last couple of months we have been watching the data, and believe the following steps are the best steps for our church family.

1. **Get Vaccinated:** We encourage everyone eligible to get vaccinated.
2. **Feeling Ill:** If you are feeling under the weather, then please stay home, get rest, consider getting tested for Covid based on symptoms, and get better before you engage in a group setting.
3. **Wearing A Mask:** Wearing a mask during worship or groups is no longer required, but there are situations where we would want to provide clarity:
  - If you have not been vaccinated then you need to be wearing a mask in group settings.
  - If you are showing small signs like a runny nose, sore throat, then err on the side of courtesy in group settings and wear a mask.
4. **Testing Positive:** We ask that you would notify NVC as soon as possible if you test positive. We understand there are reasons you may not want to do that, but we are all trying to do the best we can to navigate these days, therefore, lets hold tightly to Christ and share our results as soon as we can. (How NVC will respond if you test positive is on page 2.)
5. **Children and Masks:** Children 11 and under will be left to their parents discretion, but children 12 and up would be asked to respond to the stated information above.

### **How to respond if you have come in close contact (6 feet of someone for a cumulative total of 15 minutes or more over a 24-hour period) with a positive case?**

- If you have **NOT** been fully vaccinated: Stay home for 14 days after your last contact with a person who has COVID-19.
- If you have been fully vaccinated: People who are fully vaccinated do NOT need to quarantine after contact with someone who had COVID-19 unless you have symptoms. However, fully vaccinated people should get tested 3-5 days after their exposure, even if they don't have symptoms and wear a mask

indoors in public for 14 days following exposure or until their test result is negative.

### **What will NVC do when we learn of a positive case?**

1. **Newsletter:** When NVC is notified of positive cases we will notify our church family through our weekly newsletter. The information will be minimal with a short explanation like, “We are writing to notify you that someone at NVC who was present on (Date) has tested positive for COVID-19.”
2. **Contact Tracing:** If the individual with Covid did spend extended time with people then we will notify those people accordingly.
3. **Multiple Cases:** If there comes a day where multiple cases of Covid are showing up in our church family, then it is possible that we might move toward requiring masks in group settings for a period of time, or even pause our gatherings in worship for a season. Unfortunately, we will have to make those decisions as needed.

This is an incredibly difficult season, and overall we are proud of how our church family has navigated this season. We love what Jesus is doing in and through our church family, we are in this with you, and if you have any questions or concerns then please know that our doors are always open.

NVC Elder Team