

# Irricana United Church

## Covid-19 Protocols

September 2020

We are excited to welcome you back into the sanctuary of the Irricana United Church. As we do this, however, we take seriously our responsibility to keep everyone safe, and will maintain appropriate levels of caution.

As we begin our reopening strategy, anyone visiting Irricana United Church is expected to adhere to the following protocols:

REOPENING THE CHURCH	
<b>Policies &amp; Procedures</b>	IUC is committed to ensuring a safe and healthy environment for everyone. We are all part of the solution, and are expected to comply with these Protocols and to ensure visitors and guests are made aware of our protocols and follow them.
<b>Reopening</b>	These Covid Protocols will be distributed among the IUC members and community groups who utilize the building, in advance of the church reopening. The Protocols will also be posted on our internet site and at the entrances to the Church.
<b>Masks</b>	<p>Masks are mandatory when inside the Church. Disposable masks will be available inside the front door in the event you have forgotten to bring your own mask.</p> <p>Everyone is also expected to physically distance and to practice good hygiene. Please refer to the Alberta Government website for instructions on how to properly use and clean/dispose of face masks.</p> <p>A screen is fixed to the pulpit to protect both leader and congregants. There will be no congregational singing.</p>
<b>Please, Stay Home ...</b>	<p>Introducing any illness to our Church community is to be avoided.</p> <p>If you are not feeling well, exhibit any symptoms of the COVID-19 virus (cough, fever, shortness of breath, runny nose, or sore throat that is not related to a pre-existing illness or health condition) and/or a member of your household has a suspected or confirmed case of COVID-19, <i>you must not</i> enter the Church.</p> <p>Please stay away home until you receive negative test results or until symptoms resolve, <i>whichever takes longer</i>. However, please reach out to the Church so that we can stay connected with you in other ways.</p> <p>Please refer to AHS' COVID-19 Self Screening Tool (<a href="https://myhealth.alberta.ca/Journey/COVID-19/Pages/Assessment.aspx">https://myhealth.alberta.ca/Journey/COVID-19/Pages/Assessment.aspx</a>).</p>
WHILE AT THE CHURCH	
<b>Upon Arrival at the Church</b>	<p>In order to reduce possible transmission we ask everyone to use hand sanitizer when you arrive at the Church, after coughing or sneezing, after touching any shared or high touch surfaces, and after using the bathroom. AHS Instructions for proper hand washing and hand sanitizing will be displayed throughout the Church.</p> <p>Remember to wash your hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds or use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer (greater than 60% alcohol content).</p>

<p><b>Sign-in</b></p>	<p>You are required to have your attendance at the Church recorded, so that should someone who was present tests positive for the virus, we know who was in the Church (as required by AHS).</p> <p>At services or meetings when more than one person will be in attendance, one person must be designated to record attendance. Please be sure to sign in with that person when you arrive.</p> <p>If you are visiting the Church on your own, the Sign in Sheet will be inside the front door, and you are asked to enter the details of your visit. Sanitary wipes will be available, and you are asked to sanitize the pen after use.</p> <p>The offering plate is located on the table at the rear of the pews, no passing of the plate will be done.</p>
<p><b>Physical Distancing</b></p>	<p>Maintain physical distancing of 2 meters between you and others, and wear a mask. So as to maintain physical distancing and eliminate gathering in the entrance area, once you have arrived and signed in, please immediately move into the sanctuary and have a seat, remaining distanced from those already seated.</p>
<p><b>High Touch Points</b></p>	<p>Wipes/sanitizers will be placed throughout the Church and we ask that you use them to wipe down and disinfect high touch/shared surfaces, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• pews</li> <li>• chairs</li> <li>• light switches</li> <li>• door handles</li> </ul>
<p><b>Washroom</b></p>	<p>Following the use of the washroom, we ask that you please wipe down the taps, sink, toilet handle and door knob with available sanitary wipes so that the bathroom is ready for the next person.</p> <p>Use a hand towel to open the door when you depart the washroom.</p>
<p><b>Elevator</b></p>	<p>The elevator will be wiped down and cleaned after each event in the Church. You can do your part by not touching the doors or walls, and take a sanitary wipe when using the elevator, for touching the buttons and door handles.</p> <p>Sanitize your hands (hand washing or using sanitizer) after touching the elevator buttons. The elevator should be used one at a time. However, if you require assistance with using the elevator, then a maximum of 2 people can use the elevator at one time <i>provided that</i> both parties are from the same family/cluster group.</p>
<p><b>Kitchen, Food &amp; Beverages</b></p>	<p>You are welcome to bring your own coffee cups/water bottles to the Church; however food and beverages will not be offered in the Church until the pandemic is over.</p>
<p><b>Meeting Area in Basement</b></p>	<p>Tape will be put on chairs to indicate where individuals can sit so that physical distancing of 2 meters can be maintained. Extra chairs will be removed. Please do not bring in additional chairs or sit anywhere that is not clearly marked.</p> <p>Wipe the area of the table where you are going to sit with a sanitary wipe prior to sitting down and then again when you are finished.</p>
<p><b>Traffic Flow</b></p>	<p>Arrows will be placed on the floors to direct traffic in the Church. Please respect these arrows.</p> <p>If someone is in an area and physical distancing is not possible, please go around and use an alternate route.</p>

## INFECTION RESPONSE

<b>Symptoms of Illness</b>	<p>If you are experiencing symptoms such as cough, fever, shortness of breath, runny nose or sore throat, complete the self-assessment tool on the Alberta Government Website and get tested for Covid-19, if indicated.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• CMOH Order 05-2020 legally obligates individuals who have a cough, fever, shortness of breath, runny nose, or sore throat (that is not related to a pre-existing illness or health condition) to be in isolation for 10 days from the start of symptoms, or until symptoms resolve, whichever takes longer. These requirements must be followed regardless of whether or not the individual has been tested for COVID-19.</li> <li>• If an individual visits the Church while displaying any of the symptoms listed above they will be asked to leave immediately.</li> <li>• If a visitor to the Church is diagnosed with Covid-19 and other people may have been exposed to that person, AHS may be in contact with the Church to provide necessary public health guidance.</li> </ul>
<b>Communication of a Suspected or Positive COVID-19 Case</b>	<p>Should a visitor to the Church be exposed to or contracts the COVID-19 virus, cooperate with AHS and follow AHS guidance in tracking of others who may have been in physical proximity to that individual. We will not communicate who the individual is, however, in order to maintain their privacy and confidentiality.</p>
<b>Non-Compliance with Protocols</b>	<p>If you are concerned about someone not following these protocols, we encourage you to speak directly with that individual or a member of the IUC Board. Our intent is to ensure everyone understands the protocols, the importance of following the protocols and the risk they are putting themselves and others at when they don't follow the protocols.</p>

Current as of September 20, 2020.