

Wednesday, March 17, 2021

I joined a new gym last week. It's the gym where people get up at 4:30 a.m. in order to work out at 5:00 a.m. (It's why I've been so sleepy). It's one of the gym's where you gather with a class and do crazy workouts together. Let's just say that I've been pretty sore over the last week. I never knew I had any muscles in some of the places that I've been sore! But as I've been working out, I've reflected on why the gym is so popular and what the Church might learn from it.

First, before I can participate in the regular class, I am given a personal coach to walk me through 5-6 classes to learn the basic movements used at the gym. This coach provides me encouragement, corrects me when I'm doing something incorrectly, and has been checking in on me during the week. What if, at church, new believers were given a mentor to walk them through the basic movements of the "Christian faith" or even participation in worship? Why do we just assume that people will understand why we do what we do as Christians?

Second, there is a clear goal for physical health. Before I began my workouts, I had some metrics taken: weight, Body Mass Index, and some others. My coach explained to me where I could improve (everywhere) and how this gym could help. What is the goal of Avenue Church? Is it clear to a new believer in our midst? Do we have a clear plan to meet people where they are and to become mature disciples of Jesus Christ?

Finally, it's about community. On one hand, the gym is a little like coming to church in that everyone has "their" spot that they workout in. On the other hand, the coaches have been intentional about introducing me to others and helping to make connections. There is a sense that there is more than physical health going on- there is health that is found in the community.

I believe that there is a lot to learn from the gym. Just as people will get up at 4:30 a.m. to be at the gym by 5:00 a.m., I believe that people will come to church if we are able to offer them

community, spiritual well-being, and where they can encounter the presence of God through relationships. Unfortunately, gyms (and other places) do a better job at evangelism and discipleship than the church does. It doesn't have to be that way. What we have to offer, through the church and relationships, is the presence of the Creator of the Universe.

One of my goals for the coming year is to continue the work that our Discipleship Pathway team started by creating a clear pathway for members, attenders, and new believers to become fully-devoted disciples of Jesus Christ. That goal will require us to reevaluate the way we do ministry so that we are not letting people who desire more of God to figure it out on their own, but provide coaches and community who will walk with those who want to grow. One dream is to have an Associate Pastor dedicated to the work of Discipleship Ministries-and helping people to serve in these areas- as well as helping new people get connected to spiritual growth ministries.

When I look around the gym, people get up that early to do crazy workouts because it works! There is a transformation that takes place. When we are committed to the journey of Discipleship, there is a transformation that takes place as we walk with Jesus each day. I hope you will pray as we seek to be a church who makes disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world.

Grace and Peace,

Parton Steve

Hapl St. Patrick's

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

**WORSHIP ON SUNDAY:** Worship is held each Sunday in-person or online at 9:00 a.m. (Traditional) and 10:30 a.m. (Contemporary). We are streaming the morning worship services on our Facebook (facebook.com/avenueumc) and Youtube (youtube.com/c/ avenueunitedmethodistchurch) pages.

GIVING AT AVENUE is possible through multiple ways.

- You can give your offering in-person
- You can snail mail your gift to: 20 N. Church St. Milford, DE 19963
- You can give online through the red "give" button on our homepage
- You can text "avenueumc" to 77977 and follow the prompts
- You can download and use our "Avenue Church DE" App on your smart phone

**PLEASE MAKE YOUR WORSHIP RESERVATION:** As we continue to adapt our worship services to meet the State guidelines and best practices in the midst of a pandemic, we are asking each person/family planning on attending worship to make a reservation.

On Thursday afternoon we will be sending out an email with the reservation link.

By following the link, you can make a reservation for service you plan on attending (9:00 a.m. or 10:30 a.m.) and you will be able to choose to sit in the sanctuary or in overflow seating in Fellowship Hall. You can access the link at: <u>https://avenueumc.thersvpapp.com</u>

If you do not make a reservation, it is possible you will be seated in Fellowship Hall if the sanctuary has reached capacity. You will need to do this every Sunday you plan on attending worship. Please call the church office at 422-8111 if you cannot make the reservation online.

HOLY WEEK SCAVENGER HUNT REGISTRATION: Avenue will be hosting a socially-distanced family scavenger hunt on Sunday, March 28<sup>th</sup> beginning at 1:00 p.m. Families will use the Holy Week story of Jesus to navigate their way to stations around town and learn together about God's love for us. Please register your family by <u>clicking here</u> or going to (<u>https://tinyurl.com/4tzr9aet</u>).

If you would like to assist in planning and running the Scavenger Hunt, please contact Andrea LaMotte at <u>lamotte.andrea@gmail.com</u>

CANDY DONATIONS FOR SCAVENGER HUNT: We are seeking donations of Easter Candy to give to families who complete the Scavenger Hunt. Easter Candy should be <u>individually</u> <u>wrapped</u> and brought to the Church Office no later than Sunday, March 21<sup>st</sup>.

HOLY WEEK AND EASTER WORSHIP SCHEDULE: It has been two years since we have been able to celebrate Holy Week and Easter together. We are excited about the opportunity to celebrate Holy Week and Easter together. We want to invite you to join us during the week!

**Palm Sunday Service** is **March 28**<sup>th</sup> **at 9:00 a.m. and 10:30 a.m.** We will wave our palm branches and consider Jesus' journey into Jerusalem. Worship will be followed by a *Family Scavenger Hunt* at 1:00 p.m. Pre-registration for the Scavenger Hunt is required.

Holy Week provides two opportunities to worship. It is essential to slow down and spend time

at the Table and at the Cross before our Easter Celebration. **Holy Thursday** will take place on **Thursday**, **April 1**<sup>st</sup> **at 6:30 p.m**. as we remember Jesus' Last Supper with his disciples. **Good Friday** will also take place at **6:30 p.m. on April 2**<sup>nd</sup> in the Sanctuary as we linger at the Cross and consider Jesus' death.

**Easter Sunday** is **April** 4<sup>th</sup> and will begin with an outdoor Sunrise Service at 6:45 a.m. on the lawn along Front St. The 9:00 a.m. celebration will be a blended service indoors in the sanctuary. This service will be live streamed through our Facebook page and Youtube channel. At 10:30 a.m., we will have a combined service outside on the lawn to celebrate the Resurrection. **Please bring your own chairs for the outdoor services**. If the weather does not cooperate, the service will be held indoors.

**SPRING/SUMMER KICS LAUNCH**: We are looking to relaunch the Children's Ministry at Avenue Church in April by starting Summer KICS early as a way to continue to share the Good News with our children, ages 4 years up through 4<sup>th</sup> grade. (We believe 5<sup>th</sup> grade children and older can worship with their family) We are looking to begin Summer KICS on Sunday, April 11<sup>th</sup> at the 10:30 a.m. worship service. *To make this work, we need your help*! We need:

- ⇒ **Teachers:** We need 3-5 teachers who can commit to 1 Sunday a month to lead Summer KICS. We will provide a curriculum for Summer KICS.
- ⇒ Assistants: We would like to have assistants to help the teacher with the lesson and to build relationships with our children. We would like to have 8-10 assistants who could commit to participating once every two months.

The opportunity to serve in KICS is for all adults from either service. Your willingness to serve allows some of our families to fully participate in worship! If you're interested in helping, please contact Pastor Steve at <a href="mailto:srlamotte@avenueumc.com">srlamotte@avenueumc.com</a>.

**UMW YARD SALE SURVEY**: Avenue UMC has an annual yard sale except for this past year (2020) due to the COVID-19 pandemic. We are hopeful that the annual UMW Yard Sale for 2021 can be held in August. Please help us determine if we would have your support to move forward with planning the yard sale. <u>The tentative dates are **August 5 -7, 2021**</u>.

Survey Links This one is can be clicked on: <u>Survey for Yard Sale</u> This Survey link can be copied or typed in: <u>tinyurl.com/avenueys</u>

**OFFICE OPEN- DOORS CLOSING:** With the increase in cases of COVID-19 in our area and in an effort to limit traffic in the church, we will be keeping the main entrance doors locked during the week even while the office remains open for the short-term. There is an intercom available at the main entrance should you need to get inside the church. We encourage everyone to utilize email and phone calls, when possible, to limit the need to come to church. We thank everyone for helping to keep our staff and volunteers safe during this time. <u>Church Office Hours are Monday—Friday 9:00 a.m.—3:30 p.m.</u>

**PASTORAL CARE:** If you or someone you know is in need of pastoral care, please call the church office at 422-8111 or contact a staff person directly. You can also email

<u>prayer@avenueumc.com</u> to have your name added to the prayer chain. We are doing limited face-to-face visits during this time, but would be happy to make contact any way that we can.

**HELP WANTED! AVENUE GREETER TEAM:** The Avenue Greeter team needs your help. We're inviting you to join and help serve in this ministry. No experience needed, just a friendly smile and some of your time (a few Sunday mornings throughout the year). If you're interested, please call John Horsman at (302) 222-6642.

SCHOLARSHIPS: Avenue offers a number of scholarships each spring. Graduating Seniors can get applications from our website (<u>www.avenueumc.com/scholarships</u>). Then complete the applications on your computer and return them to Mrs. Hudson at <u>churchoffice@avenueumc.com</u>. Handwritten applications will not be accepted. **Please keep these two dates in mind:** 

- April 23<sup>rd</sup>, 3:00 p.m. deadline to return all Avenue Scholarship applications to the office.
- **May 9th**, 10:30 a.m. is when scholarships will be awarded, along with gifts and recognition for all the Class of 2021. **Please plan to join us.**

**MILFORD COMMUNITY FOOD PANTRY:** The Milford Community Pantry continues to operate on Tuesday's and Friday's from 10:00 a.m.—2:00 p.m. Right now **we need cereal** for the food pantry. Thank you very much for the diapers. As always thank you very much for your ongoing support, *Tita and Diane*.

**MATTHEW PROJECT:** Call Joanne Burbage (422-6152) if you are interested in helping pack/ handing out 25 Easter boxes on **Tuesday, March 30**<sup>th</sup>.

## **DISCIPLESHIP OPPORTUNITIES**

**SUNDAY SCHOOL FOR ADULTS:** The Sunshine Bible Class for adults led by Rev. John Van Tine, retired, is meeting in the Wesley Room at 10:15 a.m. Our study for March is "Holy Living." The lesson for March 21<sup>st</sup> lesson is "Physical Holiness" based on I Corinthians 6:12-20; and March 28<sup>th</sup> lesson is "Prayer and Holiness" based on Matthew 6:5-18. Feel free to join us in the Wesley Room

**VIRTUAL PASTOR'S BIBLE STUDY - THE SERMON ON THE MOUNT:** Pastor Steve will continue leading a Bible Study via Zoom on The Sermon on the Mount. We will be going deeper than we are able to go on Sunday mornings on Jesus's Master Class on Discipleship and focusing on how we can live out The Sermon in our everyday life. Please sign up by emailing <u>churchoffice@avenueumc.com</u>. Next meeting is Wednesday, March 17<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 p.m.

# Witness to Our Faith

Each week in the Avenue Midweek, members and friends of Avenue UMC will be sharing their own personal witness of faith. This column will be coordinated by Janice Abbott who will be seeking volunteers and writers who are willing to share their stories. Each article is due one week in advance and should be sent to Kelly at the Church office so there will be time to add it to the newsletter. It will appear the following week. It will be inspirational to read each week how God has blessed each person/family today and through the years. If you would like to contact Janice to volunteer, please call her at (302) 943-7278.

### From: Sharon G. Clendaniel

I received a call from Janice Abbott back in January, to write about my faith testimony. I had never put pen to paper about my personal relationship with Jesus Christ, and it seemed rather daunting to me. Then I remembered something my Dad once said about... "everyone has a story to tell and everyone's life is significant in God's eyes."

So, I guess I will start at the beginning. I was born in Chestertown, MD to Carlton and Bea Goodhand. I am the oldest of 5 children. My Mom and Dad went to be with The Lord in 2011 and 2019. Needless to say, they were the glue that knitted our family together, and I am happy to say we are all still very close, which is a testament to praying parents.

My Dad and Mom lived in Bridgetown, MD and met at the one room Bridgetown United Methodist Church. They were married there and when I was 4 decided to move to Harrington Delaware. Dad left a job working on the Kennersly Dairy Farm in MD and went to work with Bond Bread.

Although my parents were raised in the church, we did not attend church. Life got busy with working and raising a family. As my Dad told me, one day he came home from work and saw me standing outside looking up to Heaven. He asked me what I was doing and I said, "talking to God". He said it was then he felt convicted to send me to church, but.... we still did not go as a family.

Not long afterwards, God put people in Dad's life who introduced him to the Lord and he and Mom were both saved in the United Methodist Church in Harrington. As he used to say, God hunted him down! That was back in mid- 1950's. So began our life in church as a family.

It was the summer that I turned 12 when I attended our Church youth camp that I gave my life to Christ. I grew up going to church 3 times a week, twice on Sunday and

Wednesday night prayer meeting/missionary service. Our parents were continually active in the areas of teaching Sunday School, singing in the Choir and working with the Children's Ministries.

Fast forward a few years to when I married and moved away from Harrington to Staten Island, NY. I did not find a church home right away, by design. You see, although I gave my life to Christ and attended church 3 times a week, I was excited to be away from home, for the first time, to do my own things like sleeping in on Sunday mornings!

It didn't take long for me to express my loneliness to my Dad, and he asked me if I was going to church. Of course, I said no, and being the wise father that he was, he said that is where you are going to find your friends and church family.

My parents were prayer warriors when it came to their children and God is faithful. He put a longing in my heart to find a church home where I could worship Him and enjoy the fellowship of like believers. God led us to attend the Northern Baptist Church on Staten Island. It was there I met a wonderful Christian sister friend and her family who took us under their wings and became spiritual mentors and dear friends. God was with me. We still have a long-distance friendship with that family today after 57 years. God is Good!!

Thru life's changes and losses over the years, from Staten Island, NY to Baltimore MD and then back to Delaware, God has always given me special friends to come along with me and share my journey of faith. I know each friend God put in my life was a gift from Him. Many along the way were for a season, but I was so blessed to have them.

More importantly is the special friendship of Jesus Christ, who gave His life for me so I may have eternal life with Him. John 3:16. He is with me every step of the way. He is my best friend and promises "He will never leave me nor forsake me." Hebrews 13:5

After Jim and I got married in 1980, by our dear friend Rev. John Gilmore, we attended First Presbyterian for 20 years and enjoyed serving the Lord there. Shelby and Dana were 14 and 10 at the time. When Dana became a teenager, all her friends attended Avenue MYF and Bonnie and Jeff Carmine were the leaders. She asked if she could attend there and became active in MYF and the youth choir, etc. God leads us in mysterious ways....

A short while after Shelby married, she and her family began attending Avenue. When John Gilmore retired, we started visiting around and it was Shelby who said we should try Avenue. It was on that September day when the church had the big tent outside and the combined Sunday service that we visited for our first time. And we have never looked back. When my husband Jim and I joined Avenue UMC we were welcomed with open arms, and we were blessed by the people of God. It was Bonnie and Jeff Carmine who introduced Jim and I to "Walk to Emmaus" in March 2010. It's an experience we will always remember. I was blessed to serve on team a few years later.

Having a church family of dear friendships means everything to us. It has been a blessing to have worked alongside of God's people serving the Lord in these various capacities over the years ever since.

We have seen many physical changes at Avenue, but the one constant is the "Message of Salvation" and that "Jesus Christ Never Changes!" The Word of God proclaims... He is the same yesterday, today, and forever. **Hebrews 13:8** 

In this time of global uncertainty, we can stay close to God in a changing world knowing He is our constant in life. Where we see impossible, God makes all things possible. Matthew 19:26

One of my favorite songs is "The Church Triumphant" and today **The Church is still Alive and Well!!** 

Thanks be to God......

**ANNIVERSARY GREETINGS TO:** 

- Don and Pat Fisher who will celebrate their 54th anniversary on March 18th.
- Norm and Millie Remick who will celebrate their 70th anniversary on March 24th

#### SYMPATHYTO:

- The family and friends of Lorraine Donovan who passed away on March 11, 2021. Lorraine joined Avenue on February 27, 1977.
- Sympathies to Carol Evans on the death of her Aunt E. Roselle Roe on March 10, 2021.

#### PLEASE KEEP IN YOUR PRAYERS:

- Those affected by the COVID-19, Medical Staff, and distributing the vaccine.
- Our local, national, and world leaders
- Our District Superintendent (Rev. Dr. Kyung-Hee Sa), Bishop Peggy Johnson, and The United Methodist Church
- The Pastors, Staff, and Leadership of Avenue United Methodist Church

#### **PRAYER REQUEST:**

**Bob** Cage Brittany and Baby Naomi Jennifer Clarke Bob Colbourne Jack & Denny Collins Luisa & Billy Combs Voilet Condif Lauren Connell Linda Cottrell Joanna Denney-Turner Carolvn Evans Ken Fechter Charlie & Barbara Fleetwood Gail and Jeffrey Matt Hall **Dave Harris** Steve Hofer Doris Isele Karl Isele Ron Ivory Dottie & Jerry Jackson Alvin Jarrell Dean Johnson Linda Kemp Doris Koon Rhoda & Greg Kurz Jean Layton Lauren Lee

Nancy Lee Brittany Poore Little Jack & Zelda McDuff Ricki McGuire Jennifer McNamara Frank Mentusky Jennifer Hughes Miller **Orville Mills** Kathryn Avery Mitchell **Tiffany Mitchell** Stan Moody Jason Neall Ariel Ownes Alan Parker Mary Ellin Parsons Laurel Pastor Kris Perfetti Jan Perkins Millie Remick Rov Rigby **Dick Roberts** Lorna Rosella Rulona Phil Saint **Richard Sapp** Gary Seal Alice Sellers Leo Shew **Roland Simms** 

Racheal Simesak Gary Simpson Linda Singleton Linda Sockrider Tom Susen Joan Tolbert Joan Wadman Mary Lou Walters TJ Webb Betty Ziesel



March 4, 2021 – 12:30-1:00 PM Jackson Borges, All Saints' Episcopal Church, Rehoboth Beach

March 11, 2021 – 12:30-1:00 PM Michael Stefanek, Asbury United Methodist Church, Salisbury

March 18, 2021 – 12:30-1:00 PM *T. J. Thomas,* St. Peter's Episcopal Church, Lewes

March 25, 2021 – 12:30-1:00 PM *Kevin B. Chamberlain*, Avenue United Methodist Church, Milford

Please enter the Church wearing your face covering and register your attendance at the door.

Please observe social distancing practices while in the building. The sanctuary has been sanitized before the recital and an air filtration system is sanitizing the air.

Lenten Organ Recitals are part of the Concert Series of Avenue Church.

# Easter Flower Order Form

The Sanctuary is never prettier that it is when the spring flowers arrive for Easter. Placing Lilies and Tulips in the church in memory or honor of loved ones is a beautiful and cherished tradition.

This year we will again only be ordering 6" pots of Lilies and Tulips at \$8.00 each. All additional funds will go to the Parish Purse.

Sponsor's			
Sponsor's Name	 	 	
Memory of			
Honor			
of			

## The cost of the Lily's and Tulips are \$8.00 each



Lily



Please use a separate order form

Tulip

For each name in memory of or honored **Please Print Clearly** 

Names of sponsors and those remembered and honored will be in the Easter Sunday Bulletin Please make checks payable to Avenue United Methodist Church

# Orders must be in no later than <u>March 31<sup>st</sup></u>



THE OFFICIAL SPONSOR OF BIRTHDAYS!

## Five Myths About Colorectal Cancer



In many cases, colorectal cancer can be prevented. Still, it's one of the 5 most common cancers in men and women in the United States. Colorectal cancer is also one of the leading causes of cancer death in the United States. Don't let common myths stop you from getting the life-saving screening tests you need, when you need them.

#### Myth: Colorectal cancer is a man's disease.

**Truth:** Colorectal cancer is almost as common among women as men. Each year in the US, about 71,000 men and 64,000 women are diagnosed with colorectal cancer.

#### Myth: Colorectal cancer cannot be prevented.

**Truth:** In many cases, colorectal cancer can be prevented. Colorectal cancer almost always starts with a small growth called a *polyp*. If the polyp is found early, it can be removed – stopping colorectal cancer before it starts.

These tests can find polyps: colonoscopy, flexible sigmoidoscopy, double-contrast barium enema, or CT colonography (virtual colonoscopy). Talk to your health care provider about which test is best for you. Other ways to help lower your chances of getting colorectal cancer:

- Get to and stay at a healthy weight throughout life; stay lean without being underweight.
- Be physically active; limit the time you spend sitting, lying down, watching TV, etc.
- Eat at least 21/2 cups of vegetables and fruits each day.
- · Choose whole grains over refined grain products.
- Limit the amount of red meat and processed meat you eat.
- If you drink alcohol, limit the amount to 1 drink per day for women, 2 per day for men.
- Don't use tobacco in any form.

#### Myth: African Americans are not at risk for colorectal cancer.

**Truth:** African-American men and women are diagnosed with and die from colorectal cancer at higher rates than men and women of any other US racial or ethnic group. The reason for this is not yet understood.

#### Myth: Age doesn't matter when it comes to getting colorectal cancer.

**Truth:** Most colorectal cancers are found in people age 50 and older. For this reason, the American Cancer Society recommends you start getting checked for this cancer when you're 50.

People who are at a higher risk for colorectal cancer – such as those who have colon or rectal cancer in their families – may need to start testing when they are younger. Ask your provider when you should start getting tested and how often you should be tested.

#### Myth: It's better not to get tested for colorectal cancer because it's deadly anyway.

**Truth:** Colorectal cancer is often highly treatable. If it's found and treated early (while it's small and before it has spread), the 5-year relative survival rate is about 90%. But because many people are not getting tested the way they should, only about 4 out of 10 are diagnosed at this early stage when treatment is most likely to be successful.

To find out if you're at an increased risk for colorectal cancer and what you can do to help decrease your chances of getting this disease, please read <u>Colorectal Cancer Early Detection</u>



"You shall serve the Lord, your God, and he will bless your bread, and your water, and I will take sickness away from among you." Exodus 23:25





# Delaware Governor John Carney Governor Carney Announces Updates to COVID-19 Vaccination Program

March 16, 2021

Pharmacies can begin 50+ vaccinations Wednesday; providers can vaccinate patients 16+ with high- and moderate-risk medical conditions

**WILMINGTON, Del**. – Governor John Carney and the Delaware Division on Public Health (DPH) on Tuesday announced an expansion of Delaware's COVID-19 vaccination program.

- **On Wednesday**, pharmacies in Delaware may begin vaccinating Delawareans aged 50+.
- Also on Wednesday, health care providers, including hospitals, may vaccinate patients 16+ with high and moderate-risk medical condition s. Providers who are NOT vaccinating may refer patients to hospital systems. Delawareans should contact their medical provider about vaccination opportunities. DPH has also encouraged providers to contact their highest risk patients directly to schedule vaccination appointments. Non-paid caregivers of Delawareans with high- and moderate-risk medical conditions may also qualify for vaccination through medical providers.
- **On Tuesday, March 23<sup>rd</sup>**, the State of Delaware will open its COVID-19 vaccination waiting list at <u>vaccinerequest.delaware.gov</u> to any Delawarean, 50+.

Visit <u>de.gov/covidvaccine</u> for a list of <u>high- and moderate-risk medical</u> <u>conditions</u>, participating vaccination providers, and additional information on Delaware's COVID-19 vaccination program.

# **Centers for Disease Control and Prevention**

### Key Things to Know About COVID-19 Vaccines

Studies show that COVID-19 vaccines are effective at keeping you from getting COVID-19. Experts also think that getting a COVID-19 vaccine may help keep you from getting seriously ill even if you do get COVID-19. But while COVID-19 vaccines can keep you from getting sick, scientists are still learning how well vaccines prevent you from spreading the virus that causes COVID-19 to others. So even after vaccination, we need to continue using all the tools available to help stop this pandemic as we learn more about how COVID-19 vaccines work in real-world conditions. Although the vaccine supply is currently limited, the federal government is working toward making vaccines widely available.

https://t.emailupdates.cdc.gov/r/?id=h3dc43e11%2C136087f7%2C1360bd8c&ACSTrackingID =USCDC\_2067-DM50192&ACSTrackingLabel=Key%20Things%20to%20Know%20About%20COVID-19%20Vaccines%20%7C%20COVID-19&s=viXquT3d0BroUirRjQZR7AtIakUMw6t11HJMkO4t218

To schedule your vaccine you can

- > Go on line to the Delaware.gov site to sign up for a vaccine.
- Contact your local pharmacy and/or healthcare provider to see if they are administering the vaccines.
- > Walgreens
- > Walmart
- Milford Senior Center is also scheduling people for the vaccines



"Ask, and it will be given you; seek and you will find; knock, and it will be opened to you. For every one who asks receives, and he who seeks finds, and to him who knocks, it will be opened." ~ Matthew 8:7-8



#### When You've Been Fully Vaccinated

#### How to Protect Yourself and Others Updated Mar. 8, 2021

<u>COVID-19 vaccines</u> are effective at protecting you from getting sick. Based on what we know about COVID-19 vaccines, people who have been fully vaccinated can start to do some things that they had stopped doing because of the pandemic. We're still learning how vaccines will affect the spread of COVID-19. After you've been fully vaccinated against COVID-19, you should keep taking <u>precautions</u> in public places like wearing a mask, staying 6 feet apart from others, and avoiding crowds and poorly ventilated spaces until we know more.

#### Have You Been Fully Vaccinated?

People are considered fully vaccinated:

- ✓ 2 weeks after their second dose in a 2-dose series, like the Pfizer or Moderna vaccines, or
- ✓ 2 weeks after a single-dose vaccine, like Johnson & Johnson's Janssen vaccine

If it has been less than 2 weeks since your shot, or if you still need to get your second dose, you are NOT fully protected. Keep taking all <u>prevention steps</u> until you are fully vaccinated.

#### What's Changed

If you've been fully vaccinated:

- ✓ You can gather indoors with fully vaccinated people without wearing a mask.
- ✓ You can gather indoors with unvaccinated people from one other household (for example, visiting with relatives who all live together) without masks, unless any of those people or anyone they live with has an <u>increased risk for</u> severe illness from COVID-19.
- ✓ If you've been around someone who has COVID-19, you do not need to stay away from others or get tested unless you have symptoms.
  - ✓ However, if you live in a group setting (like a correctional or detention facility or group home) and are around someone who has COVID-19, you should still stay away from others for 14 days and get tested, even if you don't have symptoms.

#### What Hasn't Changed

For now, if you've been fully vaccinated:

- ✓ You should still take steps to protect yourself and others in many situations, like wearing a mask, staying at least 6 feet apart from others, and avoiding crowds and poorly ventilated spaces. Take these precautions whenever you are:
  - ✓ In public
  - ✓ Gathering with unvaccinated people from more than one other household

 $\checkmark$  Visiting with an unvaccinated person who is at <u>increased risk of severe illness or death from COVID-19</u> or who lives with a person at increased risk.

✓ You should still avoid medium or large-sized gatherings.

✓ You should still delay domestic and international travel. If you do travel, you'll still need to follow CDC requirements and recommendations.

 $\checkmark$  You should still watch out for <u>symptoms of COVID-19</u>, especially if you've been around someone who is sick. If you have symptoms of COVID-19, you should get tested and stay home and away from others.

✓ You will still need to follow guidance at your workplace.

https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/vaccines/fully-vaccinated.html?ACSTrackingID=USCDC\_2067-DM51719&ACSTrackingLabel=When%20You%E2%80%99ve%20Been%20Fully%20Vaccinated%20%7C%20COVID-19&deliveryName=USCDC\_2067-DM51719



