

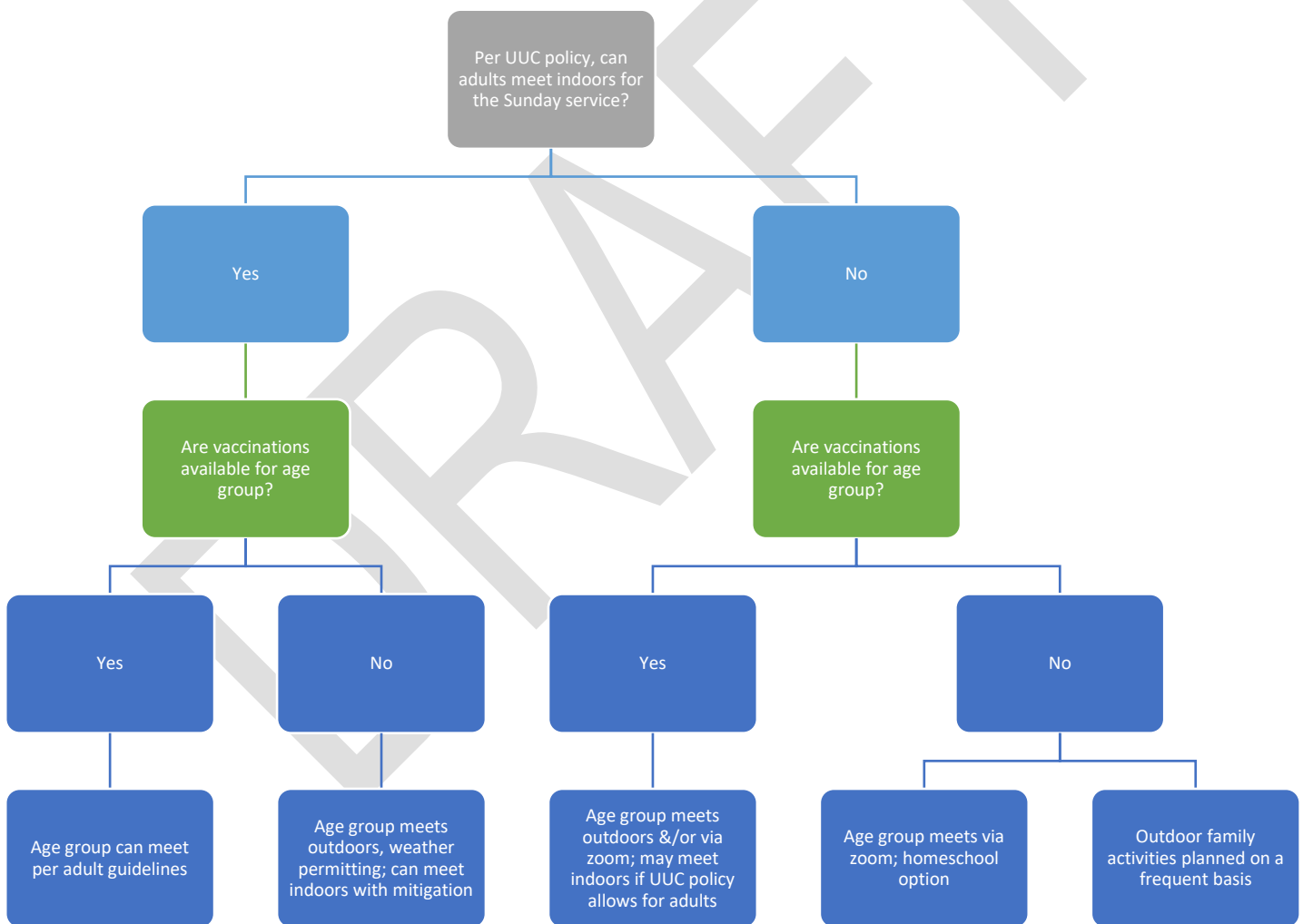
Unitarian Universalist Congregation, Blacksburg, VA.
LFD Fall Reopening Plan
June 2021

This plan is written to assist families and other congregants in understanding how a reopening plan will be implemented in regard to LFD children and youth programs. It begins with two decision points by the Board:

1. Whether or not, UUC may begin meeting indoors.
2. Whether or not, the Sunday service will again be held indoors. (Dual-platform option may be available.)

It assumes that current recommendations by the CDC and orders from Gov. Northam remain in effect, and will be revised to reflect any changes made, without notice.

Decision Tree



Part I: Overall Reopening Plan

A. Decision: UUC may meet indoors; AND Sunday service also meets indoors

Once the Board decides that it is permissible for adults to begin meeting indoors, and UUC also begins offering the Sunday service indoors, the first determination will be the current vaccine status of the age group.

1. For age groups that have had widespread access to the vaccine, that age group may meet per UUC adult meeting guidelines.

Currently, this is expected to impact the middle and high school age groups.

2. For age groups that have not had widespread access to the vaccine, that age group may meet in person outdoors, weather permitting; and in bad weather, may meet indoors, following recommended mitigation.

Recommended mitigation includes:

- masks required
- 3' distancing maintained
- air purifiers added to classrooms
- windows in classrooms operational
- vaccines required for teachers, advisors, and adult COA mentors; if not vaccinated, DLFD and/or Minister may recommend a waiver and assignment to a low risk class
- hand sanitizer provided in all classes
- disinfectant provided in all classes for cleaning surfaces
- minimize sharing of supplies

Additional safety recommendations:

- all outdoor classrooms will have access to shade
- children bring own water bottles from home; disposable water bottles available for outdoor classes for children with no water
- sunscreen and bug spray station provided; to be applied by parent only
- parent cell numbers will be kept on file
- UUC will publicize instructions for notifying LFD of potential exposure, as well as expectations of health guidelines for attendance
- children will not join the adults in the first 15 minutes of the service, per past norms
- the playground, which will be utilized as outdoor classroom space, may not be used by other age groups for 15 minutes prior to the beginning of class, during class time, and until all children are picked up from the class meeting there. For all playground use, masking and distancing guidelines remain in class, with a posted limit on usage.

Currently, this is expected to impact the elementary and preschool age groups.

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Special Consideration: families that do not want to assume the risk of attending in person

1. For those families who are not comfortable with allowing their children to attend in person, a homeschool sheet will be provided for each class. Upon request, the DLFD will prepare supplies for all class activities that may be picked up at UUC by the parent/guardian.

Special Consideration: the Nursery

As children below the age of 3 cannot be expected to mask or distance, we cannot accept liability for this age group. However, plans will be made to allow our youngest congregants to attend under parental supervision.

1. Children of all ages will be welcome to accompany their parent/guardian to the worship service. Children may stay in their seats with their parent/guardian, or utilize a special area set up to allow children to play quietly during the service; a parent or guardian must stay with the child in either location. Coloring sheets, crayons, or other easily cleanable toys may be provided at UUC's discretion; children are also welcome to bring quiet toys from home.

2. For those that prefer a more isolated area, or when parents/guardians deem a child too fussy to remain in the service, the Nursery will be open to parents/guardians and children under the age of 3 only. Signs will be posted to indicate that UUC does not clean the toys in this area. Parents/guardians will assume responsible use of the space, including following health guidelines and cleaning up the room before leaving. The service may be broadcast into this room so that adults may listen.

B. Decision: UUC may not meet indoors; OR Sunday service will not meet indoors

Again, the first determination will be the current vaccine status of the age group.

1. For age groups that have had widespread access to the vaccine, that age group may meet outdoors and/or via zoom. If small adult groups are permitted to meet indoors, these age groups may also meet indoors (per limits of UUC policy).

Currently, this is expected to impact the middle and high school age groups.

2. For age groups that have not had widespread access to the vaccine, that age group will meet on zoom, with a homeschool option. Outdoor family activities will be provided on a frequent basis that comply with current UUC guidelines.

Currently, this is expected to impact the elementary and preschool age groups.

Part II: Class Specific Reopening Plan

Based on registration for 2020-21 and recent survey results, we are projecting that we will begin 2021-22 with the following registration numbers:

- PreK: 8
- Gr. K-1: 9
- Gr. 2-3: 9
- Gr. 4-5: 10
- Gr. 6-8: 25
- Gr. 9-12: 23
- COA: 3-7

To be considered when choosing classrooms and to allow for distancing requirements:

- Each classroom must also contain a minimum of 2 adults; teen assistants will also be utilized if available in the three lower classrooms.
- The Children's RE program has an average growth rate of 30% from September until May. The highest percentage of growth is likely to come in the PreK and K-1 classes, although growth can be expected in all classes.

At the present time, based on the need for distancing, it is unlikely that classrooms 5 and 6 are big enough to use individually to hold an entire class, plus teachers. Although a final determination will be made later in the summer, based on current CDC guidance, UUC policy, MCPS directives, and registration numbers, at this time we are planning on the following:

<u>Class</u>	<u>Indoor Classroom</u>	<u>Outdoor Classroom</u>
PreK	Classrooms 1 & 2	playground
Gr. K-1	Classrooms 5 & 6	lower firepit
Gr. 2-3	Classrooms 3 & 4	gravel area outside crescent garden
Gr. 4-5	Library	upper firepit

Under this scenario, distancing would mean that the middle school class would move to a later Sunday meeting time, as it is this year. Coming of Age and YRUU would also meet in this late Sunday afternoon / early evening timeframe.