



Dear CPC Family,

I'm so grateful to our Heavenly Father for the way He has led our church throughout this pandemic--preserving unity among us, and empowering us to reach people for Christ. That said, I'm excited to share some encouraging news about face masks and our worship experience here at CPC, as we move forward in light of CDC and California guidance.

**On Sunday, June 20, CPC will move to a “mask optional” policy for all Sunday activity.**

The CDC introduced new guidance on May 13, 2021 advising that fully vaccinated people are no longer required to wear a mask or physically distance in most settings. And California has announced that as of June 15, the state's mask mandate will be aligned with the CDC's.

We have reviewed this guidance with a view toward how best to care for you, our CPC family. As you have seen and heard, CPC has always strived to be FOR our local government, health officials, leaders and the people of our Valley as we have all navigated our way through COVID. That's why we are excited to be able to make this change in concert with our community. Our “mask optional” policy depends on the personal responsibility of our CPC family to make an informed decision regarding personal use of masks. **For additional details regarding our rationale please read the FAQs below.**

As we have throughout this COVID pandemic, we continue to ask for your prayers that our Heavenly Father will protect us as a congregation while maintaining the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace. And let me say, I rejoice in being able to see your unmasked faces very soon.

With you FOR the Valley,  
Tyler

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### **Frequently Asked Questions**

1. **Why now?** These changes reflect that California has announced its intentions to modify its guidance to align with the CDC as of June 15th, as well as the increasing accessibility and application of the vaccine. The time has come to reap the benefits of our 15-month fight against COVID-19.

2. **Why wait until June 20th?** This syncs up with California's planned announcement on June 15th to align it's guidelines with the CDC. Seeking to comply with state and local guidelines wherever possible has been one of our guiding principles throughout, and so it seems appropriate to let that continue until the state guidance aligns with the CDC. Staff and on campus guests will experience the "mask optional" change on Tuesday, June 15, and the congregation in general on June 20 for Sunday worship activities.
3. **What about those who are not fully vaccinated?** The CDC and expected CA guidance will recommend that those who are not fully vaccinated continue to wear masks and physically distance both indoors and outdoors with a few exceptions. While we continue to follow their guidance and recommendations, we DO NOT intend to require this in our CPC policy. We don't think it's wise or practical to police whether or not people are vaccinated, and we don't want to cause any unnecessary division in the church. Here we are guided by a biblical principle that has informed our decisions throughout: maintaining the unity of the body in the bond of peace (Eph 4:1-3). Thus, our "mask optional" policy will trust each household to make an informed personal decision regarding their personal use of masks. CDC guidance can be found at [www.cdc.gov/coronavirus](http://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus).
4. **How does this mask optional decision apply to children and students?** Here again we are applying the "personal responsibility" principle and are asking parents to decide for their children whether to mask or not in light of CDC guidance and their own situation. For unvaccinated individuals, the CDC provides guidance that anyone 2 years of age or older continue wearing a mask, but again, we will not require or police this in our CPC policy.
5. **What about children's and student teachers, helpers, and small group leaders?** We are asking that volunteers for children and students make the same informed decision as everyone else, but we are not requiring that they be vaccinated or wear masks. Those who are vaccinated are protected as much as possible, and those who are not vaccinated are making an informed personal choice.

**We welcome any questions or feedback you would like to share in regards to this update. Please reach out to our Executive Director, Geoff LaTendresse directly at [geoff@cpcdanville.org](mailto:geoff@cpcdanville.org).**