

St. Paul's United Church Ajax Reopening Plan
Developed by Rev. Cordelia Karpenko and the Reopening Group
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Policy

St. Paul's United Church (SPUC) is a vibrant church, located in downtown Ajax, that has been actively participating in the life of the local community since 1950. First starting out as a small group meeting in a wartime portable, SPUC now has over 190 members in its congregation, all of whom enjoy working, sharing and growing together.

In March 2020, in response to direction from provincial public health officials, the church building located at 65 Kings Crescent, Ajax was closed to staff, tenants and congregation members.

Since that time, SPUC has been monitoring and abiding by evolving direction posted at <https://covid-19.ontario.ca/public-health-measures>.

In the summer of 2021 limited access was permitted to identified staff, tenants and contractors, based on all current local and provincial Public Health directives.

Now as the government provides guidance on reopening the Province, the following procedures must be followed by all organizations and/or individuals accessing the premises in order to prevent the spread of COVID-19.

Procedures

1. Requesting Access to the Building

- a. Anyone requesting general entrance to the building must contact the church office during office hours (10 am to 2 pm, Monday to Friday), 24 hours in advance via phone only.
- b. In recognition of the commandment to love each other, congregants of St. Paul's United Church Ajax who are requesting access to the building are expected to be fully vaccinated.
- c. In order to protect the most vulnerable in our community, SPUC congregants will continue to be accommodated through alternative access, including online.

2. Screening

- a. All those entering the building must self-screen. Anyone answering yes to any of the screening questions may not enter the building.
- b. Self - screening posters will be posted at all building entrances.
(<https://www.durham.ca/en/health-and-wellness/resources/Documents/Novel-Coronavirus/COVID-19-Symptom-Screen-IG-Letter.pdf> or <https://www.toronto.ca/wp-content/uploads/2020/05/95ea-Screening-poster-retail-entrance-TPH.pdf>)

3. Physical Distancing

- a. SPUC congregants should consider physical distancing whenever possible.
- b. There is to be no food or drink of any kind inside the building, excluding the Communion elements.
- c. Appropriate signage will be posted around the building.

4. Masks

- a. In accordance with current direction, anyone inside the building must wear an N95 or surgical mask that covers the nose mouth and chin at all times, excluding tenant group attendees who can prove exemptions, as documented by the tenant.
- b. In order to protect the most vulnerable in our community, SPUC congregants who have a medical exemption for mask wearing will continue to be accommodated through alternative access, including online.
- c. SPUC staff may remove their masks when alone in their own office with the door closed.
- d. Appropriate signage will be posted at all entrances.

5. Hand Hygiene and Respiratory Etiquette

- a. Hand sanitizer (minimum 70% alcohol) will be provided throughout the building
- b. Signs regarding hand hygiene and good respiratory etiquette will be posted around the building.

6. Cleaning and Disinfecting

- a. High touch surfaces and washrooms must be cleaned and disinfected thoroughly at least once per day and more frequently if there is heavy use.
- b. Disinfecting wipes will be provided in all washrooms and signs will be posted directing SPUC congregants, tenants and their attendees to disinfect surfaces after using the facilities.

7. Ventilation

- a. Whenever possible, windows will be open and fans will be on to increase air flow and ventilation.