

**St. Paul's United Church Ajax Reopening Plan**  
**Developed by Rev. Cordelia Karpenko and the Reopening Group**  
**Updated by SPUC Council**  
**Date Completed: September 11, 2022**  
**Updated: March 8, 2023**

## **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. 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.

With the building now fully open, SPUC continues to monitor and abide by evolving direction posted at <https://covid-19.ontario.ca/public-health-measures>.

As of **March 8, 2023**, the following procedures must be followed by all SPUC organizations and/or individuals accessing the premises, in order to prevent the spread of COVID-19 and other respiratory illnesses.

## **Procedures**

### **1. Requesting Access to the Building**

- a. 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.
- b. 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. Appropriate signage will be posted around the building.

#### **4. Masks**

- a. The wearing of masks inside the building during St. Paul's United Church (SPUC) Sunday Worship Services, and during SPUC sponsored social events is VOLUNTARY.
- b. The wearing of masks during the preparation and handling of food including, when plating and serving food is MANDATORY.
- c. 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. 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.

### **Appendix B – Guidelines for In-Person Worship**

#### **1. Duties of Ushers**

- a. Ensure that hand sanitizer is at entrance and exit doors
- b. Direct those arriving to self-screen.
- c. Encourage social distancing.
- d. TBD by W and M

#### **2. Weddings**

- a. TBD by W and M

#### **3. Funerals**

- a. TBD by W and M