

**Good Samaritan Episcopal Church
Special Bishop's Committee Meeting Minutes
Sunday, May 2, 2021**

The Bishop's Committee met via Zoom.

Members Present: Ellen Burton, Melinda Sowers, David Huang, Erin Tanner, Anne Davis, Charlee Mitchell, Susan Burt, Reverend Beth Scriven.

Rev Beth called the meeting to order at 11:31 a.m. This is a specially called meeting to finalize the Good Sam's Gathering Guidelines for Spring 2021.

Erin made a motion to take the new gathering guidelines attached. Melinda seconded to approve as finalized. Motion carried

Further discussion of how to announce the new guidelines and discussion of the Pentecost announcement.

Motion to adjourn – Erin Charlee seconded

Good Samaritan Gathering Guidelines Spring 2021 - Attached

Good Samaritan Gathering Guidelines Spring 2021

1. Sunday Worship
2. Non-worship Gatherings
3. GSEC Participation in Community Events

The following guidelines for outdoor gatherings apply when Hendricks County is in the **yellow** or **blue** advisory levels on the Indiana Covid-19 [Dashboard Map](#). Please consult the note at the end of each section for expectations about gathering during orange or red advisory levels.

1. Sunday Worship

- Primary Sunday worship will remain online **every Sunday at 10 am** through the summer. The Bishop's Committee will re-evaluate mid-June to make a plan for the start of the 2021 school year.
- Occasional outdoor services including communion will be offered beginning on Pentecost (May 23). These outdoor services will **not** replace the weekly 10 am service online. Time and location for outdoor worship may vary; see announcements, social media, and weekly emails for specifics.
 - Pre-registration will be requested, but not required. Registration (online or onsite) will include names and a household contact email and phone number in case tracing is needed later.
 - Everyone over the age of 2 must wear a mask over mouth and nose. Face shields and loose bandanas are not acceptable masks.
 - Seating will be distanced by household.
 - All participants should self-screen before attending worship in person, and stay home if they have a fever or other COVID-19 symptoms.
 - Communion will be consecrated and distributed in concert with diocesan guidelines (bread only, and safely handled and consumed).
 - Baptism is permissible in the normal fashion, with both the water rite and chrismation by the officiant. While administering the rite, masking protocols should be followed and distancing should be maintained when possible.
 - The Director of Music may lead music (including singing) while masked and 6 feet from others. The Director may also plan a choir performance that follows current Diocesan Guidelines. Congregation may join in singing while masked and socially distanced.

- Personal food and nonalcoholic beverages may be consumed within household seating areas while maintaining mask wearing between sips/bites. Sharing of food and drinks between households is not permitted.
- An offering basket will be provided near an entry point.
- At the end of the service, we will remind people to continue practicing good social distancing and protective behaviors.

If the Hendricks County advisory level is orange or red: all worship will be conducted online until further notice.

2. Non-worship gatherings (e.g small group activities, classes, etc.)

- **Outdoor, in-person gatherings are permitted** at personal homes or in public settings such as parks. Good Sam's activities are not permitted to be held at a restaurant - outdoors or indoors. Upon request, Good Samaritan will supply the host or organizer with hand sanitizer, disinfectant, and masks. Guests should bring their own chairs, personal-use drinks and food, and masks, and comply with all social distancing and mask requirements. Sharing or pitch-in style for food or drinks is **not** allowed. Activity attendance must be recorded (e.g. sign-in sheet with names and email/phone) in case contact tracing is needed.
- No indoor gatherings will be approved yet, even if all participants are vaccinated. We will re-evaluate this mid-June when making the fall worship plan.
- Occasional non-worship gatherings may be approved for the Harris Academy parking lot/field. To request approval for such an event, contact beth@churchthatserves.org. Please do not contact Harris Academy independently.
- Any gathering may remain online for any reason. To request a Zoom link for an event, contact admin@churchthatserves.org.

If the Hendricks County advisory level is orange: All outdoor gatherings will be limited to ten people. No food or alcohol should be consumed, and masks should be worn between sips of any personal drinks.

If the Hendricks County advisory level is red: all gatherings must be online.

3. Good Sam's EC participation in community events

- Official Good Samaritan participation in community events must be approved by the wardens or vicar before commitments are made, in order to ensure that the event is consistent with our guidelines.

- Individuals representing Good Samaritan at community events (i.e. at a table, carrying a banner, etc.) are expected to mask and distance in accordance with the guidelines in this document, even if the event protocols are more permissive.
- Good Sam's representatives on break (away from an official Good Sam's space) are asked to continue modeling good social distancing and masking behavior.
- Ministry leaders may continue to promote any community event, but should clearly communicate to Good Samaritans what the event protocols will be. (For example, a downtown march might have a mask requirement but no social distancing.)

Especially when choosing to wear Good Sam's clothing or logos in the community, please continue our mission to love and serve all by modeling good social distancing and masking behavior (even after vaccination).

These guidelines are in place until replaced. They will be re-evaluated in mid-June and may be replaced or updated after that.