

SAUC Protocols

Phase 2 Guidelines for In-Person Worship

St Albert United Church (SAUC), endeavors to follow all of the Government guidelines and regulations that are currently in place and we are committed to keeping all of our protocols updated to reflect any changes to Government regulations.

The safety of all of our members, guests and staff is of utmost importance and for that reason, SAUC will be diligent in following all safety guidelines. We must look after one another and be respectful of the rules that have been put in place.

1. Current guidelines require that all people attending church maintain 2 meters of social distancing between participants unless they are members of family cohorts. Rows have been blocked off in the sanctuary and there must be three empty chairs between cohort groups to leave the required 2 meters of distancing.
2. If people are feeling at all unwell, we ask that they refrain from coming to the church. Anyone who has: experienced any COVID-19 symptoms over the last 14 days (including but not limited to: fever, shortness of breath, new or worsening cough, difficulty breathing, headaches, diarrhea, aches and pains, fatigue, sneezing, sore throat, and/or runny nose), has travelled outside of Canada over the last 14 days, or who has been in contact with a confirmed or probable case of COVID-19, cannot attend worship service. Upon entering the church for worship, people will be asked if they are experiencing any of the above symptoms.
3. **Masks are mandatory. Masks will be available from one of the greeters in the church should you not be able to supply your own. To ensure the maximum effectiveness of the masks, the mask should cover both your mouth and nose. We also request that if people stop to visit once they leave the church, please continue to socially distance and wear their masks until they are in their vehicle.**
4. SAUC will keep a record of attendees for each service, along with contact information to allow for contact tracing should there be a positive case of COVID-19. This information will be destroyed after 14 days.
5. Because capacity will be limited to allow for social distancing, those wishing to attend worship will be required to register using the link on the website. Those who are unable to register electronically can register through the office ahead of time. Registering is very important because it allows us to have a list of attendees in advance and expedites the check-in process on Sunday morning, so we don't have a long line up in the entryway.

6. Attendees will be given a dose of hand sanitizer as they enter the building and additional sanitizer stations are located inside the sanctuary and outside the main floor washroom. We suggest that people use the sanitizer as they leave the building as well.
7. The cloak room will not be accessible so please keep your coats with you.
8. All children are to be supervised to minimize touch points throughout the church. This includes visits to the bathroom. Wandering throughout the church is not allowed at this time.
9. No food or drink is to be served. Personal bottled water, and other beverages are allowed if they are in a spill-proof container.
10. A volunteer will take each person's temperature using a touchless, infra-red thermometer pointed at the person's wrist.
11. There will be a station where a volunteer will check the person's name off an attendance list and re-confirm that they are symptom free. Access to the office will be restricted on Sunday mornings as we attempt to limit traffic in a tight workspace.
12. Inside the sanctuary, ushers will help to guide people to their seats to help ensure distancing restrictions are adhered to and to ensure family/cohort groups are seated properly. We will try to accommodate requests to sit in a particular section of the church, but please understand that people may not be able to sit where they typically would have previously.
13. Congregational singing will not be permitted at this time.
14. Collection plates will not be passed but a collection box will be placed in between the entry and exit doors to the sanctuary to allow people to drop their offerings as they leave the building.
15. We ask that as people exit the church, they continue to observe proper social distancing. If you stop to visit, please ensure that you are not obstructing the path for others to exit. The ushers will help to guide this process where needed.