



## UUMAN Policy / Procedure

**Title of Policy / Procedure: Guidance for Music Ministry during COVID-19**

**Date Developed: July 31, 2022; Date Approved: August 2, 2022**

**Policy / Procedure Developed by (Group/Committee name): Board**

**Last Reviewed: August 1, 2022**

UUMAN's Board of Trustees uses [Covid Act Now](#) to monitor current Covid risk levels. In 2022, the site adopted a 3-tier system aligned with CDC's recommendations for communicating risk. Given that studies have shown that singing produces 77% more aerosols than talking ([US-news-article](#); [published-study](#)), the Board also looks to the Association for Unitarian Universalist Music Ministries (AUUMM) to guide the Music Director for when singing can occur. Per the [AUUMM guidance](#):

- UUMAN's Music Ministry (including but not limited to the Chalice Choir, UUMAN band, MUUSIC Share, Coffee House) can sing safely indoors if community transmission rates are Low Risk, or green, according to [Covid Act Now](#). The *safest option* is to ask singers to stay masked and continue to distance singers 3 feet apart - however, this should be a conversation between the Music Director and singers.
- If Fulton or Cobb counties (the 2 counties where the largest percentage of our congregation lives) are **Low Risk**, or green category, then we recommend a 10-15 minute break after 60 minutes of singing to allow for one complete air change in the performance space. Singers should leave the room during the break.
- If Fulton or Cobb counties (the 2 counties where the largest percentage of our congregation lives) are **Moderate Risk**, or yellow category, then we recommend shorter singing segments (30-45 minute segments of singing with 10-15 minute air changes in between) and greater distancing between singers (3-6 feet).
- If Fulton or Cobb counties (the 2 counties where the largest percentage of our congregation lives) are **High Risk**, or orange category, then indoor, in-person singing should be suspended until those areas return to a lower risk category (as set forth by the UUMAN Board, see COVID-19 Policy—to be linked once approved by the Board).
- As always, we must be mindful of those who are immunocompromised or are otherwise at high risk. As covenantal communities we are duty-bound to protect the most vulnerable among us.