
WINTER 2020

COVID-19 Guidelines

Guidelines are subject to further revision based on continued congregant input and evolving public health advisories.

We have been out of our church building for over 8 months now, and we are all feeling the loss. While there is increasing desire to see each other, please remember we are entering a time of escalating risk. The COVID Response Team, in response to questions about Northlake community gathering, offers the following advice:

What are the guidelines for congregants meeting in person?

For Northlake events, this is the best information we have available at this time:

- Data indicates that meeting in an outdoor area, with masks, remaining 6 feet or more apart, with proper hand sanitation afterward, is a low risk activity.
- Meeting indoors remains a higher risk activity, although wearing a mask provides some protection. Using an air purifier may add an extra level of protection, but conclusive studies are not yet widely available.

Given what we know at this time, **Northlake is not sponsoring any indoor-events for congregants.** Northlake's minister, staff, or committees may sponsor occasional outdoor experiences. (See below for more information.)

Northlake's minister may sponsor occasional outdoor experiences on the grounds including in the parking lot, which will be announced as they become relevant.

Unless otherwise pre-approved, we ask that ALL Northlake events take place:

- a) via online meeting software (such as Zoom), or
- b) in the designated outdoor tent, or
- c) outdoors on the grounds (including in the parking lot), must be pre-approved by the minister or COVID Response Team.

If I want to organize a NUUC group meeting what is the current protocol?

A canopy has been erected on the grounds. The tent must have two sides open at all times to ensure constant fresh air. Small groups (no more than 8 families at a time, no more than 16 persons total at a time) affiliated with Northlake wishing to host an event for congregants may register with the Northlake Campus Administrator (Becky) to reserve the outdoor tent space. Becky will make available more detailed guidelines regarding rules for use, contact tracing data collection, and clean up. Becky can be reached Tuesday through Saturday at office@northlakeuu.org.

We ask that no Northlake-sponsored events take place in alternative locations, such as individual backyards or public parks. While we acknowledge that some of these locations may offer comparatively low-risk ways of gathering in your personal time, there are a large number of variables associated with each location, and the COVID-19 Response Team does not have the ability to assess each site to set guidelines for maximum occupancy, necessary sterilization procedures, etc. If you are gathering in the name of the church, please reserve and use the designated tent site. If you would like to request an exception in order to host a Northlake-sponsored event in an alternative, outdoor location, please contact the COVID Response Team. (See below for contact information)

May I meet with my Northlake friends outside of church? Northlake is not issuing guidelines for non-Northlake events of this nature. You are invited to do your own research in order to make your best choices.

Who do I contact should I have questions about meeting with people during these COVID times? Jordan Peterson is the Chair of the Northlake Safety Committee and will serve as the contact for the COVID-19 Response Team. You may contact Jordan at jrp5953@yahoo.com. Alternatively, you may contact Campus Administrator Becky Walker at office@northlakeuu.org.

For questions about keeping yourself safe outside of Northlake, we recommend continuing to keep abreast of information released by county and state public health authorities.