

Mt. Zion UCC Covenant of Care

Whatever the Church does in its gatherings and other ministries expresses our understanding of who God is, what it means to be disciples of Jesus, and how the Holy Spirit empowers us to be witnesses to what God intends for the world. In times of crisis, when we must address new and challenging practical concerns, our basic theological convictions still apply: love of God and neighbor; regard for human bodies and fellowship; worship and sacraments; inclusive hospitality that welcomes all and avoids stigmatizing others; and the beauty of God, the world, and human creativity.

As an individual who attends Mt. Zion UCC, and as a follower of Jesus Christ committed to God's call to love my neighbors and to care for the most vulnerable among us, I covenant with my fellow church members, family, and friends to keep our community safe and healthy.

I covenant to...

- *Wear a face mask as a symbol of love and care for others.*
- *Sit six feet apart from others outside of my seating group, leaving room for God to work in the in-between spaces.*
- *Clean up after myself in the spaces I use, because like Jesus, germs are everywhere I go, too.*
- *Honor and respect the sacredness of each person in this space and to **stay home if I don't feel well**, knowing God is with us wherever we are, whether inside or outside the walls of the church.*
- *Work together with my church family in creating a safe and healthy space to worship as one body, united in God's love, acknowledging the hard work ahead, and the commitment to care for one another.*
- *Contact one of the pastors directly if I have been diagnosed with COVID-19 after having participated in in-person worship.*

Long ago, the prophet Micah asserted that what God requires of us is "to do justice, and to love kindness, and to walk humbly with your God" (Micah 6:8). The COVID-19 pandemic has radically changed our lives and our world. It has not, however, changed what God requires of us. Together, we as the church, covenant to care for and love one another in new and different ways, embracing God's still-speaking voice.