



South Church

A Unitarian Universalist Congregation — Affirming the Worth and Dignity of All People

Offices at South Church Meeting House

73 Court Street Portsmouth, New Hampshire 03801

Telephone: (603) 436-4762

info@southchurch-uu.org <http://www.southchurch-uu.org>

Voluntary Participation in In-Person Sunday Worship Agreement to Follow Safety Protocols, Assumption of the Risk, and Waiver of Liability Relating to COVID-19

I will be attending in-person worship during the 2021-2022 church year at South Church. I acknowledge that we are in the midst of a COVID-19 pandemic which requires certain safety precautions and compliance with federal, state and local directives about the safety of myself and others. To help ensure my full understanding of the risks of COVID-19 by attending these events, I have fully read, understand and agree to the following:

The World Health Organization has declared COVID-19 to be a worldwide pandemic. COVID-19 is extremely contagious. The virus is spread through the air, person-to-person contact. Infected individuals can be asymptomatic and therefore able to spread the disease without knowing they are sick. There is no known cure for COVID-19, and evidence has shown that COVID-19 can cause serious and potentially life-threatening illness including but not limited to acute respiratory failure, pneumonia, acute respiratory distress syndrome, acute liver injury, blood clots, acute cardiac arrest, acute kidney injury and even death.

The safety of South Church's members, staff, and visitors is its highest priority. In furtherance of ensuring that safety, South Church has implemented safety protocols including the requirement that: (1) all persons on or around the premises during the event are required to wear **face coverings** whenever they are inside the church; (2) all persons attending the event shall complete a **health screening** commitment **before attending**.

By signing this document, I specifically acknowledge that due to the highly contagious nature of COVID-19, South Church **cannot guarantee** that I, or my children or other guests, will not be exposed to, contract, or spread COVID-19 while utilizing South Church, its sanctuary, common areas, meeting space, front steps, or any other area on property, in spite of South Church's reasonable efforts to prevent it. Understanding these risks, I **voluntarily chose to attend** worship services at South Church and **assume the risk** that I (and/or my child) may be exposed to or infected by COVID-19. **In choosing to utilize South Church and/or enter onto South Church's property, I acknowledge and accept that I may be exposing myself to and/or increasing my risk of contracting or spreading COVID-19, and I voluntarily agree to participate in worship services**

All visitors and community members of South Church have an important role in maintaining the health and safety of each other and stopping the spread of COVID-19. As a visitor of South Church, I acknowledge that I must take precautions to stay healthy and protect others. To reduce the risk of contracting COVID-19, I agree to be an active participant in maintaining my own health, wellbeing and safety, as well as the safety of others, by following all guidelines and expectations outlined by the state, by South Church, and by signage on the South Church premises. If I have children, I also agree to do my best to maintain control over my children to help ensure that they comply with the safety protocols. If I am a person with a medical or other condition that may pose a risk to the health of the individual wearing the face covering, or if I will be bringing a child age six or younger without a face covering, I will advise South Church in advance.



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ASSUMPTION OF RISK: I have read and understand the above warnings concerning COVID-19. I hereby accept on behalf of myself and any of my guests/children the risk of contracting COVID-19 in order to utilize and enter the property at South Church. I accept the risk of being exposed to, contracting, and/or spreading COVID-19 in order to utilize South Church and its premises during worship services and related activities.

WAIVER OF LAWSUIT/LIABILITY: I hereby forever release and waive my right to bring suit against South Church, and its officers, directors, employees, members, volunteers, or other representatives in connection with exposure, infection, and/or spread of COVID-19 related to utilizing South Church and its premises. I understand that in executing this waiver I therefore give up my right to bring any and all claims whatsoever including, but not limited to, for personal injuries, death, disease or property losses, or any other loss, including but not limited to claims of negligence and give up any claim I may have to seek damages, whether known or unknown, foreseen or unforeseen.

CHOICE OF LAW: I understand and agree that the law of the State of New Hampshire will apply to this contract.

I TAKE THESE RESPONSIBILITIES SERIOUSLY AND WILL DO MY PART TO PROTECT MYSELF AND OTHERS. I HAVE CAREFULLY READ AND FULLY UNDERSTAND ALL PROVISIONS OF THIS DOCUMENT INCLUDING THE RELEASE, AND FREELY AND KNOWINGLY ASSUME THE RISK AND WAIVE MY RIGHTS CONCERNING LIABILITY AS DESCRIBED ABOVE:

Signature: _____ Date: _____

Name (printed): _____

Name of Minor Child/Children: _____

I am the parent or legal guardian of the minor named above. I have the legal right to consent to and, by signing below, I hereby do consent to the terms and conditions of this document including the assumption of the risk, and Release.

Signature: _____ Date: _____

Name (printed): _____



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COVID-19 Health Screening Commitment for In-Person Worship

The safety of our community is important to us. By signing this form, you are helping mitigate the risk of spreading covid at church on Sunday mornings.

Name (Please print, First and Last):

I will forgo attending worship at South Church if:

- I have a fever of more than 99 degrees
- If I have had a fever over 99 degrees in the last week
- If I have had a new cough or sore throat in the last week
- If I have experienced shortness of breath in the last week
- If I have experienced nausea, vomiting or diarrhea in the past week
- If I live with, or have you been in close contact with someone who is suspected or confirmed to have had COVID-19 in the past week
- If I engage in activities, such as travel overseas or a very large indoor event, that may significantly increase my risk of exposure to covid

For Parents:

Additionally, Our family **will forgo attending worship at South Church if any of the above conditions apply to them.**

Children's Names:

Please list the names of all children under the age of 18 years for whom you are legal guardian, and for whom you make the above health safety commitment:

SIGNATURE: _____ **DATE:** _____

[This form will apply to the 2021-2022 church year at South Church UU in Portsmouth, NH]