

SAFETY COMMITTEE: COVID-19 WEEKLY UPDATE

Conditions and Recommendations Starting Sunday, November 21, 2021

CURRENT CONDITIONS:

Lane County continues to see a steady decrease in cases, and a slight increase in vaccinations. We are still at **High Risk**. Vaccines for children ages 5-11 are now available, but it will take a few months for them to be fully protected.

The Safety Task Force has increased indoor capacity from 24 to 45 persons and increased choir capacity to 30 singers. They will be presenting a recommendation to the Board about in-person worship at the end of this month.

Please be aware that the children of the Big Little School are all under 5 years of age, and are using the building on their regular schedule. For everyone's safety please avoid contact with the education wing of the building until further notice.

ACTIVITIES ALLOWED WEEK OF 11/21/2021:

Based on the characteristics of our sanctuary, Vaccination status, Mask status, and Activity (Talking, Working), and Hours in the room, we have determined the following safe activities allowed this week:

- Vaccination Strongly Advised and Expected
- Maximum # of people meeting inside church building at one time: 45 if all vaccinated for 2 hours.
- Activity: Sitting, little movement as possible
- Rooms to Be Used: Sanctuary/Social Hall, South or East Entrances.
- Masks Must Be Worn at All Times While inside the church building.
- Only beverages are allowed to be consumed indoors within groups--no meals.
- Outdoor activities are allowed, and masks are required when physical distance is not possible. Maximum outdoor crowd size: 60
- Outdoor singing is only allowed by designated singers who must be masked and distanced.
- Small groups and committees can ask participants for their vaccination status. The purpose of asking is to let group members make an informed decision about how, where, and how long to meet. The purpose of asking should never exclude anyone from church sponsored activities, and groups must offer online, multi-platform options.
- Please do not enter the education wing of the church while the Big Little School is in session. Those rooms are not currently used by UUCE.
- The choir may practice indoors under these conditions:
 - Maximum 30 people for 2 hours of singing.
 - Surgical masks (not cloth) encouraged.
 - All singers must be vaccinated.

- Maintain distance equal to or greater than 6 feet
- HVAC will be turned on during and 1 hr after rehearsal.
- Wipe down chairs, equipment with antiviral wipes after each practice.
- Sanctuary not available Wednesdays 5:00 - 8:00pm (to allow for proper air exchange before, during and after choir rehearsal).
- Library use is allowed now by reservation, limited to 2 people for 15 minutes.
This is because this is a window-less, closed space.

WHAT IS THE SAFETY COMMITTEE ACTIVELY WORKING ON?

- Considering the conditions under which we can return to in-person worship.

VACCINE EXPECTATION:

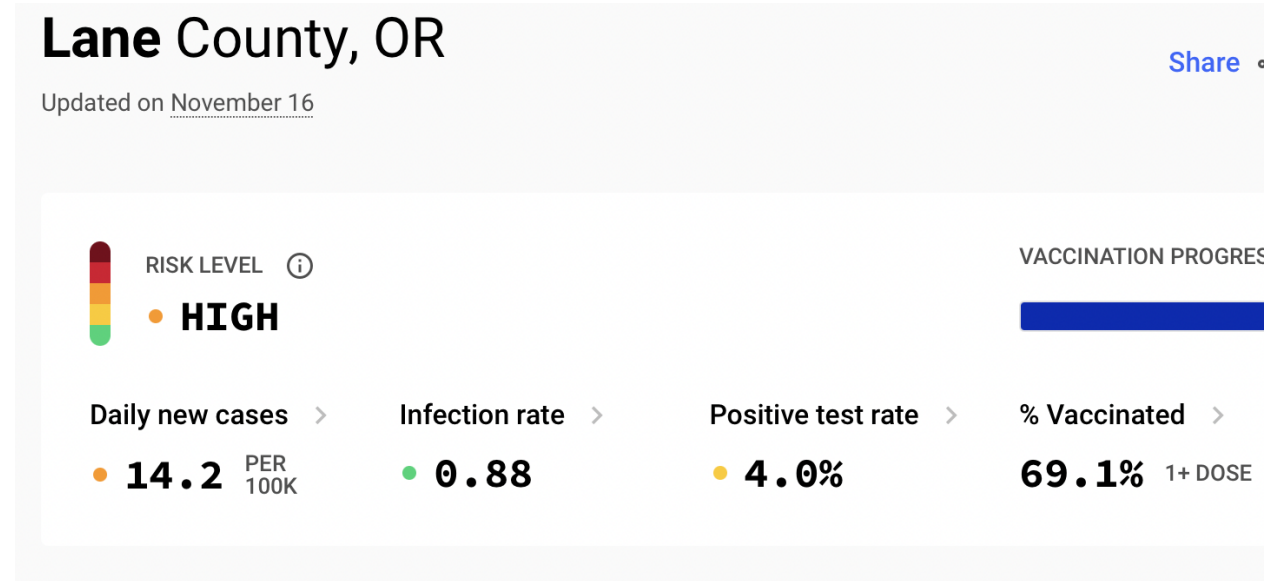
We expect everyone who is medically able to receive a vaccine will have already gotten one.

[Click Here](#) to make an appointment.

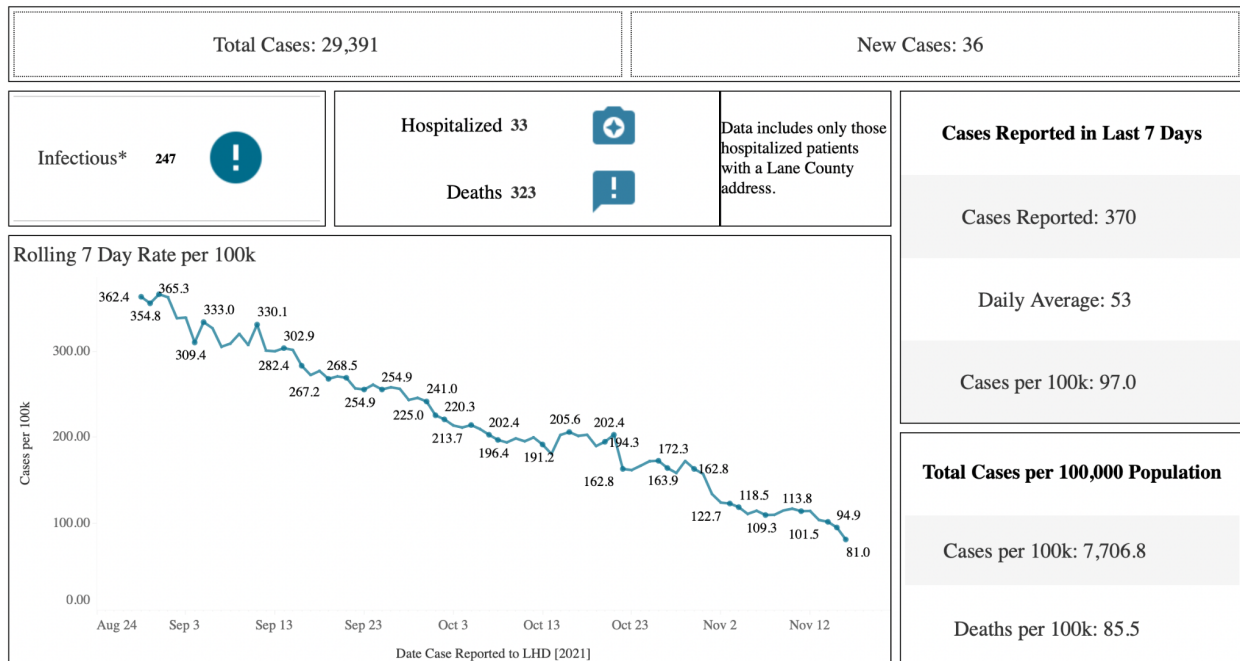
Please contact safety@uueugene.org with your ideas.

**SEE BELOW FOR THE SCIENTIFIC DATA
WE USE TO DETERMINE WEEKLY ALLOWABLE ACTIVITIES**

The data below comes from [the website. covidactnow.org](https://the.website.covidactnow.org)



And this chart comes from [Lane County Health Dept.](#) for November 16, 2021



[Click Here to learn about the COVID Variants from the Oregon Health Authority](#). The yellow/orange shaded colors represent the Delta variants which have all but replaced other variants in a matter of 8 weeks.

Using this website we established the “Maximum Safe Limits” for our sanctuary using these factors: <https://indoor-covid-safety.herokuapp.com/>

Maximum safe limits on group size based on Mask, Vaccination status, and time in room

UUCE Sanctuary

Size: 5238 ft² x 17 ft = 89000 ft³

Windows: None

Air Turnover Rate: 3.25/hour

Filters: MERV 11

Humidity: 40%

Max Occupancy (6 ft rule): 247

Mask Type: Cloth

Mask Compliance: 83%

Breathing: Resting, Talking

225 cases / 100,000 (Sep 27)

	Max Time (hours)	Vaccination Status			
		Some Unvaccinated		All Vaccinated	
		Talking	Light Exercise	Talking	Light Exercise
Masked	1	9	3	24	18
	1.5	7	2	18	12
	2	6	2	16	6
	3	5	2	15	6
	4	4	1	12	5
	5	4	1	11	4
	6	3	1	10	3
	7	3	1	9	3
	8	3	1	9	3
	9	3	1	7	3
Unmasked	1	0	0	0	0
	2	0	0	0	0
	3	0	0	0	0
	4	0	0	0	0
	5	0	0	0	0
	6	0	0	0	0
	7	0	0	0	0
	8	0	0	0	0
	9	0	0	0	0

6 ft rule adhered to between family units or pods

This chart with the colorful lines summarizes the COVID model and shows which actions we might take would be the most productive in making the community safer from the virus.

Each of the lines represents the expected room occupancy compared to the “baseline” situation.

- For example, looking at MERV (orange-brown), if we spent time and money and got the best air filters in the world (MERV 11 or higher), it does not have much effect at all on increasing room occupancy.
- ***One item that makes a huge difference and is practically free to do is getting better masks on people (green line).*** The disposable surgical masks would more than double the safe room occupancy and using the KN95 masks would more than triple it.
- Increasing the ventilation coming from outdoors (yellow) is next most important,
- The Lane County vaccination rate (blue) will increase over time by itself - unless a new variant arrives that is not affected by the current vaccines.
- It was interesting that mask compliance (grey) is not that meaningful. If we wore better masks, the compliance number would be more important.

