



COVID-19 UPDATE

Since the outbreak of the pandemic early this year, UBC has been diligent about detailing safety measures and protocols for our staff and for how our building is maintained. The fact that we have avoided significant outbreaks of COVID-19 onsite over this time is evidence that our protocols have been working.

Out of an abundance of caution, it is our policy to notify the staff and the congregation when a pastoral/director level staff member receives a positive COVID test.

This past Saturday, Dec. 19, Ben Sandstrom, our Associate Pastor of Contemporary Worship Ministries, received confirmation of a positive test for COVID-19. Ben began experiencing mild symptoms on Thursday, Dec. 17 and was tested that same day. In accordance with our protocols, Ben started a self-quarantine period immediately. Ben has not been at UBC since Thursday and he was not at UBC for worship services this past Sunday, Dec. 20.

On Monday, Dec. 21, Randy Cox, Associate Pastor of Family Ministries, also received confirmation of a positive test for COVID-19. Randy was at UBC on Sunday morning, Dec. 20, before he noticed any symptoms. He wore a mask while he was onsite, he was not running a temperature when checked on arrival, and he followed our other normal safety protocols. Later Sunday evening, Randy noticed that he had lost his sense of taste but was not experiencing other symptoms. He began to self-quarantine and was tested on Monday morning.

Previously when staff members tested positive, we were able to trace the source to

a single incident. With these two cases, we have not been able to determine the origin of the exposure. Since we have Christmas Eve services scheduled this week, the church decided to provide rapid testing for the UBC staff this morning. After the testing was completed, there were no reports of additional positive test results so we will continue with Christmas Eve services as scheduled. We will follow our normal service protocols which include social distancing, requiring face coverings, and cleaning the Worship Center between services.

Please pray for these families and others who are dealing with the effects of COVID-19.

This does not necessarily indicate you need to take any additional actions. This notification is a part of our standard awareness policy. Please refer to the CDC website for their recommendations.

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/php/public-health-recommendations.html>

Current guidance based on community exposure, for people exposed to people with known or suspected COVID-19 or possible COVID-19

Individual who has had close contact (within 6 feet for a total of 15 minutes or more)

Exposure to

- Person with COVID-19 who has [symptoms](#) (in the period from 2 days before symptom onset until they meet criteria for [discontinuing home isolation](#); can be laboratory-confirmed or a clinically compatible illness)
- Person who has tested positive for COVID-19 (laboratory confirmed) but has not had any [symptoms](#) (in the 2 days before the date of specimen collection until they meet criteria for [discontinuing home isolation](#)).

Note: This is irrespective of whether the person with COVID-19 or the contact was wearing a mask or whether the contact was wearing respiratory personal protective equipment (PPE)

Recommended Precautions for the Public

- Stay home until 14 days after last exposure and maintain social distance (at least 6 feet) from others at all times
- Self-monitor for symptoms
 - Check temperature twice a day
 - Watch for fever ^[1], cough, or shortness of breath, or other [symptoms](#) of COVID-19
- Avoid contact with [people at higher risk for severe illness](#) from COVID-19
- Follow [CDC guidance](#) if symptoms develop



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