

## **New FBC guidelines in response to new August 2021 mask mandate**

On Friday, August 13th 2021, a new statewide mask mandate took effect for indoor spaces open to the public. First Baptist Church of Eugene has chosen to comply with these requirements. This means that for adults and children older than five years old, masks will be required during Sunday services and all other gatherings in our facilities throughout the week. These new requirements do make exceptions for our worship and teaching teams when leading in song, announcing, and teaching in public. The mandate also allows for temporary removal of masks during a time of taking communion elements and while eating or drinking. As before, masks are not required for those that have medical or other mitigating physical conditions and an area in the balcony will begin to be reserved for any of you that are in that category. This new mandate does not require a change to our seating configuration or put limits on attendance. So again, as a reminder, if you are indoors in the public areas of our facility including the lobby, classrooms, and hallways, please wear a mask while we are choosing to comply with these requirements. Also, please extend grace as people get word of this temporary shift of policy; many people have stopped watching the news or haven't yet subscribed to our Thursday Email Blast. Let's love one another and our community well while we seek to navigate this season together as a unified body with Christ as the head.