**DATE:** October 25, 2021

**TO:** All Mount Zion Ministries, Staff, Employees, Independent Contractors, Music Department, Production Team, Volunteers, Congregants, Service Providers/Vendors, and Guests

**FROM:** Darryl D. Porter | Pastor

Diana Porter, First Lady

Jessie Colvin | Steward Pro Team

Reverend Greta Fowler | Chief Operating Officer

Betty Marshall | Communications Director | Security, Medical and Emergency Management

Belinda McKoy | Security, Medical and Emergency Management

Maurice S. Byrd | Security, Medical and Emergency Management

**SUBJECT:** **MT. ZION COVID-19 POLICY & PROCEDURES**

On behalf of Mount Zion Kennesaw, attached is our current Covid-19 Policy and Procedures regarding attendance and participation in worship services, Altar Call Wednesdays, Pantry Food Distribution and other designated activities. The policy and procedures, as developed by the Security, Medical, and Emergency Management Program Team, are effective beginning October 25, 2021.

Specifically, the Covid-19 Policy and Procedures are being implemented to maximize the safety and protection of ministerial staff, ministries, the production team, music ministry, congregants, employees, independent contractors, volunteers, service providers, visitors, guests and the community at large. The policy and procedures pertain to; (a) all of the worship services and activities that will reconvene on a limited bases beginning November 1, 2021; (b) a fully vaccinated-only, mask and safe-distancing mandate; and (c) a “proof of vaccination and registration procedure.

In the implementing the Covid-19 Policy and Procedures, our paramount interest is the health and wellbeing of every individuals associated with Mount Zion. Although we are cognizant of the diverse political, social, hesitancies, personal positions and other implications regarding mask and vaccination mandates; our policies and procedures are definitive in our interest in the protection of our congregation. We do, however, respect and recognize the individual liberties associated with the personal decisions regarding taking the vaccines, however, we firmly believe, our policy regarding the vaccinated-only and masks mandate, is the most effective methodology for protecting all persons at Mount Zion.

As the Covid-19 Policy and Procedures are implemented, should you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact Betty Marshall, Communications Director at [bmarsh280@gmail.com](mailto:bmarsh280@gmail.com) and/or any of the above referenced members of the Security, Medical and Emergency Management team.

**COVID-19**

**POLICY & PROCEDURES**

**for**

**MOUNT ZION WORSHIP & MINISTRY ACTIVITIES**

***Effective October 25, 2021***

**POLICY STATEMENT**

**Mount Zion Kennesaw requires that all individuals (adults and children), without exception and/or exemption, who attends or participates in an in-person worship, altar call Wednesday, pantry food distribution program, all other ministerial activities, or vendor provided services must be fully immunized against COVID-19; wear a CDC quality mask during the entirely of the service and sit at a safe distance.**

**IMPORTANT POINTS**

* **Fully immunized includes those individuals (adults and children, when they become eligible); two weeks after they have received (a) two (2) doses in a two-dose vaccine series, such as the Pfizer or Moderna vaccines; (b) the boosters, when publicly available and (c) a dose in a single-dose vaccine, such as Johnson & Johnson’s Janssen vaccine).**
* **There are no exceptions or exemptions to the policy.**
* **All attendees or participants must provide “proof of vaccination and register to attend a worship service, pantry, altar call Wednesday or church activity.**
* **All attendees or participants must wear a CDC approved mask and sit at a safe distance in the sanctuary.**
* **No unvaccinated children are allowed to attend or participate. (Once the CDC approves vaccines for younger children, the Mt. Zion policy may be updated).**
* **Attendance for worship services will be limited to**

**REGISTRATION PROCESS**

**STEP ONE**

**Each individual must provide proof of vaccination to the Mt. Zion Medical Response Team for verification.**

**STEP TWO**

**Once proof of vaccination has been provided, you may register online for a worship service.**

**STEP THREE**

**When you register online, you will receive an email notification indicating whether you have been admitted to the worship service.**

### **COVID-19 VACCINATION Q&A**

### **Who does the Mount Zion policy and procedures apply?**

The Mount Zion policy and procedures apply to every individual, regardless of position, role or status as a congregant who desires to attend and/or participate in the worship services or other activities.

### **Will there be any exceptions or exemptions made to the Mount Zion Covid-19 Policy mask and fully vaccinated mandate?**

No. Although some organizations recognize exemptions or exceptions to the mask and vaccinated-only policies; however, the Mount Zion Policy and Procedures do not allow exceptions or exemptions to the policy.

### **Can an individual who produces a negative test permitted to attend services or activities in accordance with the policy?**

### No. The policy does not provide for the accommodation of a negative test result. The policy is strictly a fully vaccinated policy.

**Are unvaccinated children eligible for registration and admittance to worship services or other activities under the policy?**

No. Fully vaccinated children may register and participate in the worship service and other activities. Children 12 years old and older are eligible for full vaccination with the Pfizer Covid-19 vaccine. Currently, there are no vaccines available for children under 12 years of age. Due to the unavailability of the vaccine for children, in this age group, they will not be eligible to attend in-person worship services and other activities in accordance with the Mount Zion policy. When, however, the CDC approves vaccines for younger children, the policy may be updated.

**Will unvaccinated individuals have an opportunity to participate in worship services and other activities?**

Yes. Although Mount Zion encourages every individual to take the vaccine, we respect the decisions and civil liberties of an individual. To that end, unvaccinated individuals may continue to participate in the virtual worship services and activities provided by Mount Zion.

**Are there any ramifications for proof of vaccine fraud or misrepresentation?**

Yes. We believe most persons at Mount Zion are honorable with the utmost integrity. In the event that there is an effort to circumvent the policy through fraud, misrepresentation and/or some other unethical behavior, Mount Zion reserves the right to treat that individual as ineligible for any future worship services and activities.