

# **BUUF HYBRID SERVICES – Answers to Frequently Asked Questions**

July 6, 2021

## **What were the results of the In-person (IP) Sunday Services survey?**

There were 27 responses. Most adults are vaccinated. About a third of children age 12 up are vaccinated. Most respondents said they felt it was somewhat or very important to restart IP services. More than half responding said they would attend IP services this summer. More than 60% responding were not comfortable bringing their unvaccinated children to IP service. Preferred safety measures for unvaccinated individuals included masking indoors, social distancing, required hand hygiene upon entry to the building, separate materials for each RE student, removal of toys from play areas, microphone sanitizing, no food sharing. More than 75% respondents were willing to wear a mask inside if needed. 54% of respondents suggested writing Joys and Concerns to avoid microphone sharing. 15% said live music was very important, others felt streaming music was sufficient for now.

## **How will audio get to the Zoom participants?**

In-person (IP) participants will use a sanctuary microphone. Videos shared on the sanctuary monitor feed sound to Zoom.

## **How do Zoom viewers participate in service?**

Pre-service--Conversation with Host, other Zoomers. During service—Announcements, Joys & Concerns; put your name in the chat, announce your name out loud. The BUUF host will spotlight your Zoom feed.

## **How will sanctuary / congregation appear to Zoom folks?**

One camera will be on the sanctuary, one camera on the pulpit. IP folks will only appear on camera in close-up if they go to the podium or chalice table.

## **Will we ask IP folks if they are vaccinated?**

No. IP folks who are sick should stay home. IP folks age 3 and up who are not vaccinated or feel unsafe should wear a mask.

## **How will children's RE be handled?**

This summer, weather permitting, children will gather and play outside, no masks needed. In case of cold or rain, children ages 3-12 will mask and spread out in the classrooms and fellowship hall.

**Which service has priority, IP or Zoom?** As long as we have Zoom participants, Sunday Service will be designed to include them. Service components such as Readers, Music, and Sermon will be a combination of IP and online.

## **How will social time be managed?**

When the service ends there will be a strict 10-min comfort break. IP and Zoom folks can stretch, refill their beverage, use the bathroom. If food is available in the fellowship hall individuals can partake according to their own comfort level.

**Will Coffee Time be interactive?**

No. At least not at first. We'll take a 10-min comfort break after service then gather for hybrid Circle Talk. Ideas for improving social time for Zoom folks are requested and welcome.

**How do in person viewers participate in service?** During Announcements, Joys and Concerns, Fabric of Life, etc., Zoom folks can put their name in the chat, raise their Zoom hand, or unmute and say their name, then wait to be called on. Services might include Music, Readers, Sermons or other service components that are delivered virtually. Individuals who do not want to handle or speak into the microphone can write down their announcements, joys & concerns for the service leader to read.

**Hybrid meetings get confusing—how will we make sure Zoom participants don't get disoriented about who is talking?** IP etiquette of using the microphone for participation will help Zoom folks have the best experience.

**How will we communicate IP etiquette for IP safety and for Zoom inclusivity?** We will encourage some simple basics: If you are sick, stay home. (Let someone know if you need help.) If you are not vaccinated or feel unsafe, use a face mask inside the building. Be courteous about social distancing. If you are IP and want to speak during the service or circle talk, use the podium- or handheld-microphone.

**Will music continue as is now, seen on screen, or will there be IP music, too?** There may be a mix of streaming and live music. Lyrics will likely be posted on slides that all participants (online and IP) can view. IP sing-along is considered safe if you are masked or distanced from others. The music directors will monitor CDC and UUA guidelines for IP choir singing.

**Where will IP speakers focus?** The podium camera will be front facing, allowing IP speakers to address the sanctuary and Zoom folks simultaneously from either the pulpit, or from in front of the chalice table.

**Will cameras be fixed or moving?** Most likely fixed. We will be testing out different approaches and may only have one camera facing the front of the sanctuary at first. Eventually, we hope to have two cameras, one covering the entire front of the sanctuary and one focused directly on the speaker at the pulpit.

**What type of cameras is BUUF using?**

The Hybrid Service Planning tech crew is still working on this.

**Where should the focus be for Service?**

At the front of the sanctuary. This will help IP be inclusive of Zoom folks.

**Is budget a concern for tech equipment?** The Board has provided guidance regarding budget for tech equipment. The hybrid tech crew is testing cameras and will select one that best meets our needs within budget. The hybrid team will apply to the MidAmerica region for the Husbands Munroe grant to help cover equipment expenses.

**Will the BUUF Zoom Host be at BUUF?**

Yes. Probably. But maybe not.

**Will tech positions be paid or volunteer?**

We hope a few individuals will volunteer to share the tech and Zoom Host duties.

**IP there will be more people chatting before service--will there be a chat option for Zoom folks?**

Yes. Zoom folks will be able to chat with each other and the Zoom Host prior to service.

**Circle talk...how do we handle that?**

The most important thing for IP folks to do is use a microphone to contribute during discussion. Zoom folks will not have a good experience if there is group discussion among IP folks without the use of a microphone.

**Will we use slides for the order of service?**

Maybe. To begin, the Order of Service will continue to be produced electronically. If someone volunteers to create slides for the Order of Service, the tech crew will consider how to include them in the service.

**How many people can go to the sanctuary for service?** Seating for 50 people will help us avoid crowding. With some BUUFers continuing to participate in services via Zoom sanctuary crowding shouldn't be a concern. If attendance spikes, the Sunday Services team will work with the BUUF Board to address safety concerns, if any, or the need for RSVP's.

**How will social distancing be enforced?**

Chairs can be grouped for families and otherwise spread out.

**Will social distancing in the fellowship hall be more relaxed?** Probably. People might stand or sit together more closely in the fellowship hall. Ideas to help everyone feel comfortable are requested and welcome.

**Has the airflow at BUUF been assessed?** Yes. HVAC Specialist Jim Fuller assures us BUUF has good airflow. The HVAC fans will be on during occupancy. The fellowship hall bathrooms both have automatic fans.

**Sanitizing--what are the needs for surfaces, mics, hymnals, other?** Hand sanitizer and alcohol wipes will be available for use. Use good hand hygiene, don't touch your face, wash your hands if you are going to eat. There aren't any plans to sanitize hymnals. RE material and craft supply safety will be assessed later. IP folks can use an alcohol wipe on the hand-held microphone for safety as desired. Those uncomfortable handling the microphone can write down announcements, joys & concerns for the service leader to read. Other ideas are welcome.

**Do we require masks for children? Masks optional for adults except if no vaccination?** Yes. For the safety of themselves and others, people who have not been vaccinated should wear a face mask indoors.

**Children's RE--what are parents comfortable with?** Many of the BUUF children already gather together for fun without masking. Inside the building, though, masks are requested for anyone age 3 and up who is not yet vaccinated.

**Current IP singing guidelines say we need at least two: 3-foot distancing, KN95 masks, sufficient ventilation. Will we have that?** If IP folks keep the 3-ft rule in mind when seating, with BUUF's good airflow the sanctuary will meet this guideline.

**How do we safely share the microphones?** Concerned individuals may use a disinfectant wipe while touching the hand-held microphone.

**Is BUUF's current laptop sufficient for Zoom?** No. The hybrid tech crew will recommend a different laptop. The BUUF Board has budgeted for tech hardware and the hybrid tech crew will apply for a MidAmerica grant to help cover the costs of tech hardware.

Respectfully submitted,  
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