

# **Coronavirus guidance from the Synod Moderators**

**March 2022**

**Greetings to the saints who form the United Reformed Church. The Synod Moderators met together at the very beginning of Lent, during which time we looked again at the general situation with the pandemic, considered the relevant Government guidance, and offer the following for your consideration.**

1. The pandemic is not yet over, and in some areas the infection rates are actually increasing. In other areas, whilst the rates are coming down, and the risk of serious illness is diminished by vaccination amongst most of our members and visitors, they are still at a very high rate, and even now hundreds of people are dying each week with or from Covid-19. The need for continued vigilance is clear.

people are choosing not to wear a face covering. That should not be the guiding factor for our churches.

9. We remind everyone that the wearing of face coverings is an appropriate mitigation to risk of spreading the virus.
10. We ask Elders' Meetings to carefully consider the appropriate timing to inform their churches when it is no longer necessary or recommended to wear face coverings. In our opinion it is too soon to do so now (remembering the legal requirement that remains in Scotland).
11. Even when the expectation is lifted, some will choose to continue to use face coverings. They must NOT be subjected to abuse or ridicule.
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