

Statement on Vaccinations
Feb. 10, 2021

The Lens of the Future committee has discussed the increasing number of persons being vaccinated against the COVID-19 virus, and if this development justifies a change in the currently approved procedures or criteria. It has been suggested that the criteria or the description of acceptable activities should be modified for persons who have been vaccinated. We understand that persons who have been vaccinated might be more willing to participate in group activities, and that the risk of transmission will decrease as more persons are vaccinated.

We expect that the greater incidence of vaccinations will help to control the spread of the virus, resulting in reduced numbers of active cases and a lower percentage of positive tests. This will allow us to move to higher levels of re-opening and more participation in group activities, based on the currently approved procedure.

The committee does not feel that it is appropriate to have different criteria or to allow different activities based on a person's vaccination status. First, we don't think the church should be in the position of confirming or even questioning the vaccination status of individuals. In addition, the CDC recommends that all precautions continue to be taken by all persons (vaccinated or not) until the overall incidence and spread of the disease decreases substantially.

The committee does not recommend any change in the procedures at this time. We will continue to monitor the incidence and spread of the virus in the community, and will recommend reopening steps when appropriate. We will also continue to review CDC recommendations and will consider changes in the procedures and criteria if and when that seems appropriate.

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