North Carolina’s COVID-19 numbers are trending in a more hopeful direction. Standards have now changed for those fully vaccinated. (See guidance below from the NCDHHS on who can gather safely.) There is still a mask requirement for indoor public places and for any indoor gathering outside of our homes. Physical distancing is still required.

1. Outdoor gatherings, physically-distanced, are recommended.
2. In the event of any in-person gathering, limit indoor occupancy to 100 or 50% of your space while guaranteeing sufficient physical distancing of at least a 6-foot separation between households.
3. Holy Communion can be celebrated with appropriate protocols.
4. Be sure that ALL gatherings include a roster of those in attendance in the event that contact tracing needs to be done.
5. We recommend that children or youth events happen outdoors, masked, and physically distant.
   a. We recommend NO indoor overnight events (lock-ins or retreats) at this point.
   b. In the event of any in-person gathering, limit indoor occupancy to guarantee sufficient physical distancing of at least a 6-foot separation between households. This limit applies separately to each room within a building.
6. We continue to recommend no congregational singing or chanting indoors.
a. Outdoors, distanced by at least 10-12 feet, with everyone masked, singing is a possibility, though not without risk.

b. Musical instruments such as handbells, guitars, violins, etc. are low risk options. Brass and other wind instruments (instrument bell covers are recommended) outside should be well distanced—at least 20 feet from any other participant. Again, not without risk.

7. We continue to recommend no fellowship meals, coffee hours, or other such events that make physical distancing difficult.

8. In NC, face coverings are required. Face coverings should be worn at all times indoors by everyone present.

9. We highly recommend vaccination. Remember that a person is not fully vaccinated until two weeks after the final dose.

Even as more people are becoming fully vaccinated, we should still be following the three Ws—Washing hands, Waiting 6 ft. apart, and Wearing face coverings. Getting the COVID-19 vaccine and following the 3 Ws is everyone’s best protection from getting and spreading COVID-19.

NCDHHS Interim Guidance for those receiving vaccinations.  
https://tinyurl.com/ybg67j4l