

## Options for gathering for in-person worship and activities

We are grateful for the faithfulness, hard work and creativity many have put in to adapting worship and other gatherings during this COVID time. The effort has been tremendous and has resulted in keeping people safe. Thanks to improving conditions across much of the Greater Northwest Area, most of our ministries now have several options for in-person gatherings. We all must remain cautious, but here are some possibilities that you are welcome to consider as Holy Week and Easter plans are finalized, and beyond into spring as conditions warrant.

### Which option is right for your church or ministry setting?

#### Option 1: We want more people to gather!

- a. Churches with approved re-opening plans may gather outdoors, with strict 6' distancing between households, everyone masked, no singing, no food/drinks. Group size limited to 50 people unless local authorities permit fewer (and without religious exemptions or equivalent).

#### Option 2: We want to sing!

- a. Churches with approved re-opening plans may gather outdoors, with strict 12' distancing between households, everyone masked, no food/drinks, up to 50 people and you may sing.
- b. Churches with approved re-opening plans may have music groups gather outdoors for recording or performance. Strict 12' distancing between musicians, everyone masked (including singers and wind instruments).

#### Option 3: We want to be indoors!

- a. Churches with approved re-opening plans and Phase 2.1 approval may gather indoors, with strict 6' distancing between households, everyone masked, no singing, no food/drinks and include up to 25 people as your space permits.

You can have multiple gatherings on a single day to accommodate more people indoors.

Here's how:

- Open all doors/windows for 2 hours between gatherings.
- Sanitize all high touch surfaces between gatherings (door handles, light switches, restrooms, etc.).

You can utilize different spaces for multiple gatherings in a single day. Here's how:

- Consider using the sanctuary for a service and the fellowship hall for a different service. Between gatherings on a given day, sanitize high touch items (door handles, light switches, restrooms, etc.) that are needed for each group.
- Offer one indoor gathering and a separate outdoor gathering. Perhaps the outdoor event is livestreamed to the indoor venue so that those who cannot be comfortably seated outside are well cared for.
- Offer simultaneous indoor gatherings if your space allows for each group to be an individual closed room (using separate entrances/exits, gathering space, restrooms, etc., with groups never intermingling).