Gathering in Person

As the stay-at-home orders are being lifted, it is an opportunity to reflect on how you will develop a plan for gathering again in person.

» Start by staying informed with the local guidelines and requirements. Has your local government developed special guidelines for churches?

» Then, survey your leaders and members. Potential questions to ask:
  • Give a sliding scale to assess comfort with returning to in-person services.
  • What precautions would you like in place before you would comfortably return to church?
  • If we opened next week, would you volunteer in your same role?
  • What precautions would you need in place for you to send your children to our children's program?
  • What do you miss most about church?

» Use the information you gather and consider these categories:
  • What shifts for health and safety need to be made:
    - To parts of the service (communion, offering, children's church, etc.)?
    - To the facility for social distancing (space between rows, flow of entrance and exit, etc.)?
    - To sanitation practices (restroom cleaning schedule, wiping down door handles, greeters wearing gloves, etc.)?

» Once you have developed a plan that is approved by your Regional Director:
  • Communicate with your team and customize the attached flyer and chart to share with your members and community.
  • Do a run through of the new best practices and procedures with your team before the first service.