

re:gathering

a plan for coming back together at Grandview Christian Church

The following plan was developed and approved by the staff and elders of Grandview Christian Church, in consultation with CDC, state/local, and federal re-opening guidelines for faith communities. *This plan is subject to change* based on recommendations from the aforementioned sources. In its current form, this represents our best effort to resume physical gatherings while also prioritizing the health and safety of the congregation and the wider community. This plan assumes a continued decrease in the number of new cases and the practice strict social distancing.

Although we believe this plan is appropriately cautious, we also understand that many will not yet feel ready to resume gathering in-person, even in a limited format. For that reason, Grandview will continue offering a livestreamed worship service and other online gathering opportunities during this time. If you are at high risk of serious complications from COVID-19—or are simply unsure if this is the right time for you or your family to gather in person for worship—please participate in the online service.

May 31 + June

- **Worship:** In addition to our online services, on-campus Sunday services will also resume, with an altered format, stringent cleaning/screening guidelines (see page 3), and an increased number of services. As already noted in the section above, we will also offer an online service.
 - Worship gatherings will be capped at 50, and all attendees must register to attend using an online platform. While it feels strange to RSVP for a worship service, this is the best option we can imagine for ensuring small gathering sizes, which will reduce the risk of transmission during our gatherings.
 - Registrations for upcoming services are available online at the following link: <https://grandviewchristian.churchcenter.com/registrations>. A registration form will be posted every Monday for the following Sunday. A link to the form will be available on the front page of the website, in our closed Facebook groups, and in our weekly newsletter emails. If you need help registering, call the church office.
 - Registration will remain open until the service is full. If all services at a campus fill up, we will add more. To ensure that others who wish to attend have the opportunity to do so, please only register if you plan to attend. If plans change, please contact the church office so that make that spot available for others.
 - Buffalo Campus will have three Sunday services: 9:00 AM, 10:30 AM, and 12:00 PM
 - All Buffalo Campus services will be held in the Green Sanctuary and will be a “blended” style of worship.
 - Cityview Campus will have two Sunday services: 9:30 AM and 11:00 AM
 - The online service will become a true livestream of the 10:30 AM service, meaning that it will now air at 10:30 AM instead of the previous 9:30 AM airtime.
 - Cleaning/screening guidelines (see page 3) will be in effect during this time.
- **Kids & Youth Ministry:** All regular programming (nursery-12th grade) will remain virtual.
- **Small Groups:** Off-campus groups may resume meeting during this time.
 - Groups that choose to meet are strongly encouraged to maintain social distance and implement sanitation practices.
- **Classes:** Sunday school and other class gatherings will remain virtual during this time.
- **Office:** The church office will re-open during this time, but visits will be restricted.
 - In an effort to reduce traffic in the building during this time, please only visit the church office by appointment, wear a mask while during your visit, and limit your time in the building.
- **Building Use:** Apart from Sunday services, office hours, and food pantry disbursal, there will be no scheduled building use during this time. Existing building reservations will be re-evaluated on a case-by-case basis.

July

- **Previous Restrictions:** Except where explicitly noted in this section, all previous restrictions are still in effect during July.
- **Worship:** The attendance cap for gatherings will be raised to 100. Worshipers will still be required to RSVP online.

August + Beyond

It is especially difficult to predict social distancing recommendations beyond this point in the year, as the need for schools to re-open in some capacity will likely have a significant impact on the CDC, state/local, and federal social distancing guidelines. The following represents our goals for the fall, assuming a continued decrease in the number of new cases and the need to practice strict social distancing. Like everything in this document, these are subject to change.

- **Worship:** Starting in August, we would like to return to a “new normal” schedule for worship.
 - Buffalo Campus will have two services, one at 9:30 AM (contemporary style, Green Sanctuary) and 11:00 AM (traditional style, Blue Sanctuary). We do not anticipate re-starting the 11:00 contemporary service for the foreseeable future, as attendance in both contemporary services had declined before the pandemic, due to the launch of Cityview.
 - Cityview Campus will return to one service at 9:30 AM.
 - Cleaning guidelines will remain in place during this time, and mask wearing will still be encouraged at the beginning of the transition back to larger services.
 - RSVPs for worship will no longer be required.
- **Kids & Youth Ministry:** Starting in August, kids and youth programming will begin to phase in, starting with Sunday morning classes and worship.
 - At the Buffalo Campus, adult Sunday School classes will not meet in August, allowing kids and youth to utilize those rooms and maintain smaller-than-usual class sizes. When adult Sunday school resumes in September, children will return to their normal classrooms.
 - At the Cityview Campus, classroom sizes are large enough to safely accommodate children using normal classroom arrangements, so Cityview Kids Camp will resume normal operations in August.
 - New cleaning measures for the kids area are detailed in the **Kids Camp Reopening Plan.**
- **Small Groups:** All groups are encouraged to meet again, with encouragement to continue sanitizing the meeting space before/after gathering.
- **Classes:** Classes may begin meeting on-campus in August. The exception to this rule is that adult Sunday School classes will not meet on Sunday mornings until September, as their usual rooms will be used as children’s classrooms for that month to allow for fewer kids in each classroom throughout August. If Sunday school classes would like to gather in August, a class leader may contact the church office to arrange another day of the week to meet. Adult Sunday School classes may resume normal meeting times and location in September.
- **Office:** The office will be fully-reopened in August.
- **Building Use:** We will return to our usual process of evaluating building use on a case-by-case basis at this time, with an encouragement for guests to wipe down their meeting space before and after gathering.

Cleaning, Screening, and Distancing Guidelines for Worship Services

- During the online service RSVP process, all attendees will be asked a series of health screening questions. Anyone who has recently experienced COVID-19 symptoms will not be permitted to join a physical worship gathering.
- Those coming for worship are encouraged to use the upper entrance only (near the Grandview Room/Blue Sanctuary). Main doors will be propped or held open, so that entrants don't need to touch door handles.
- All doorknobs, handles, surfaces, etc. will be cleaned before and after each service.
- Hand sanitation stations will be located at all major entrances, as well as in the worship space itself. Worshipers are strongly encouraged to use these at every opportunity.
- Seating will be marked to help individuals and family units sit at least six feet apart from others.
- Everyone in attendance (except for those leading the service) are strongly encouraged to bring and wear a mask. If you do not have a mask, we will have some available for you.
- To reduce contact during the service, there will be no greeting time or "passing of the peace," communion will be served using a "double-cup method," and offering will be received via giving boxes.
- There will be no coffee service until September.

Resources

1. Video introducing this plan from Aaron, Brandon, and Mickensie: <https://youtu.be/2L1qhABOoWc>
2. Kids Camp Cleaning and Sanitation Plan (Buffalo Campus): <https://bit.ly/36bzbAD>
3. Link to register for services: <https://grandviewchristian.churchcenter.com/registrations>
4. Tutorial video for how to register for services: <https://bit.ly/2X1Njlr>
5. Feedback form to let us know your thoughts on the plan and when your family plans to join us for on-campus services: <https://forms.gle/bFdQuiZFhz312mjo6>