

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. We believe prioritizing community health in this way is an act of Christian love.

Although we believe this plan is appropriately cautious, we understand that many will not feel ready to resume gathering in-person, even with appropriate safety measures in place. For that reason, Grandview will continue offering a livestreamed worship service and other online gathering opportunities. 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.

A Fluctuating Plan

This version of the plan contains significant changes and updates from previous versions. Most importantly, this plan no longer assumes a steady downward trend in the number of new cases in our area. Based on recent reports about COVID-19 spread in Washington County, we now expect the number of cases to fluctuate for several months.

As a result, Grandview's plan for implementing social distancing protocols will now be determined using a method similar to the one found in the [Johnson City Schools 2020-2021 Protocols for In-Person Learning](#). We will gauge the transmission rate of COVID-19 in our area—and adjust social distancing protocols accordingly, as outlined in the graph below—based on the average number of new COVID-19 diagnoses per 100,000 Washington County residents in a rolling 14-day period. [Click here to view the current 14 day average](#) (see the box at the bottom left after selecting “Washington” from the drop-down menu near the lower graph). Effects on the Grandview re:gathering plan outlined in the chart below are cumulative.

	No Significant Spread	Minimal Spread	Moderate Spread	Substantial Spread
Threshold Level	<1 new case	1-5 new cases	5-11 new cases	11+ new cases
Effect on Grandview re:gathering plan	no restrictions on gathering	cleaning, screening and social distancing guidelines in effect	no on-campus Sunday AM kids programming, Two4Two, or Sunday School classes	no on-campus worship gatherings, no Crew456 or youth gatherings, church office closed

August + Beyond

Until the TN Department of Health reports a sustained period of no significant spread, the following represents (except where noted otherwise) the “Minimal Spread” plan for re:gathering at Grandview. Additional restrictions will be added if spread increases, per the chart above. *As always, this plan is subject to change.*

- **Worship:** Livestreamed services from both campuses, plus limited in-person gatherings during times of “Minimal” (green) and “Moderate” (yellow) spread.
 - During Campus will continue to have two blended services, but the time of these services will change to 9:30 AM and 11:00 AM (previously 9:00 and 10:30 AM). More services may be added if demand increases. The 9:30 AM service will be livestreamed on the church website, YouTube, and the Grandview Facebook page. The service will be available for viewing on-demand after the live broadcast.

- Cityview Campus will maintain one service at 9:30 AM, unless demand increases. This service will be livestreamed on the Cityview Facebook page. The service will be available for viewing on-demand after the live broadcast.
- Attendance at all campuses will be capped during periods of at bot online registration for services is required. The registration form for each week opens at midnight on the previous Sunday. Registration can be found at <https://grandviewchristian.churchcenter.com/registrations>.
- Cleaning, screening, and guidelines (see below) will remain in place during this time, and mask wearing will still be strongly encouraged.
- During times of “Substantial” (red) spread, online services will remain available from both campuses.
 - Livestreams will be available as outlined above. The services will be available for viewing on-demand after the live broadcast.
- **Kids & Youth Ministry**
 - During times of “Minimal” (green) spread, we will begin phasing in Sunday morning kids and youth classes and worship.
 - At the Buffalo Campus, adult Sunday School classes will not immediately resume meeting in person. This will allow kids and youth to utilize those classrooms and maintain smaller-than-usual class sizes while transitioning back to in-person programming.
 - 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 September with stricter cleaning practices (see page 3).
 - Parents will register their kids for children’s classes when registering themselves for worship services. Questions will be added to the existing online registration process to account for this.
 - All teachers and kids will wear masks while in their classrooms and in the public areas near the children’s classrooms.
 - During times of “Moderate” (yellow) spread, there will be no Sunday morning kids and youth classes.
 - Crew456 and Youth programming may resume with social distancing protocols
 - During times of “Substantial” (red) spread, there will be no kids or youth programming.
 - Youth and Crew456 small groups may meet via Zoom at this time at the group leader’s discretion.
- **Two4Two:** Two4Two will begin September 16. If COVID spread is within the “Moderate Spread” threshold or higher, Two4Two will be delivered in an online format. If we reach the “Minimal Spread” threshold during the semester, we will attempt to re:gather in person for Two4Two with the following changes to our usual format:
 - No meal will be served.
 - Cleaning, screening, and distancing guidelines (see below) will be in effect, with the added requirement that masks be worn at all times except while outdoors and socially distanced.
 - To reduce contact in classroom and Rendezvous settings, Two4Two participants will be divided into two groups of roughly equal size.
 - Starting at 6:00 PM, half of the attendants will attend Rendezvous, while the other half attends a blended game/class session (except youth, who will attend youth worship during the game/class time). At 6:45 PM, the two groups will swap. Two4Two will end at 7:30 PM, like usual.
 - Separate nursery/toddler care will be available.
 - In the event that COVID-19 is in the “Moderate Spread” zone at any point during Two4Two, the program will transition to an online-only format.
- **Small Groups:** Small groups who meet the guidelines for the “Canopy” program are encouraged to meet, provided they follow all detailed social distancing protocols. Guidelines for this program will be published the week of July 27.

- **Classes:** Classes may begin meeting on-campus when we reach the “Minimal Spread” threshold. The exception to this rule is that adult Sunday School classes will not begin meeting until approximately one month after Sunday morning kids programming resumes, as their usual rooms will be used as children’s classrooms for that month to allow for fewer kids in each classroom. This delayed start may be extended beyond one month, if necessary.
- **Office:** The office will remain open on an appointment-only basis during times of “Minimal” and “Moderate” spread. Please wear a mask during your visit. During times of “Substantial Spread,” the office will be closed to non-staff visitors.
- **Building Use:** We will return to our usual process of evaluating building use on a case-by-case basis when the “No Significant Spread” threshold has been reached, with an encouragement for guests to wipe down their meeting space before and after gathering. Until then, building use is restricted to gatherings of 25 or fewer people. Masks and/or social distancing are required for these gatherings.

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.
- 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 the “No Significant Spread” threshold has been reached.

Resources

1. Kids Camp Cleaning and Sanitation Plan (Buffalo Campus): <https://bit.ly/36bzbAD>
2. Link to register for services: <https://grandviewchristian.churchcenter.com/registrations>
3. Tutorial video for how to register for services: <https://bit.ly/2X1Njlr>