



GATHERING PLAN FOR GROUPS



*For more resources, visit
www.crosspointcity.church/groupsathome*



PREPARING TO GATHER AGAIN

If it is one thing this time of social-distancing has taught us, it is that we were not created for isolation. However, thanks to technology and digital communication platforms, many of us have continued to stay in touch with our friends and loved ones during this time as best as we can. But nothing substitutes being physically present with others.

As our community begins to re-open and transition back into the public, we wanted to create this guide both to inform our small groups of our plan and to equip them for gathering again. We know these are very uncertain times, and our hope is that this guide will help our groups discern how to plan for gathering again when they feel that it is safe to do so.

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PART I:

OUR PLAN FOR GROUPS

PHASED RE-OPENING PLAN

NATIONAL GUIDELINES

	PHASE ONE	PHASE TWO	PHASE THREE	PHASE FOUR
SOCIAL DISTANCING	STRICT	MODERATE	LIMITED	NORMAL
VULNERABLE POPULATIONS*	SHELTER IN PLACE	SHELTER IN PLACE	DISTANCING REQUIRED	DISCRETIONARY
MAX GROUPS/CROWDS	10	50	MINIMIZE CROWDS	NO SIZE LIMIT

CHURCH RESPONSES

WORSHIP GATHERINGS	ONLINE	ONLINE	WATCH PARTIES/ ONLINE	IN PERSON
CROSSPOINT GROUPS	ONLINE	IN PERSON/ONLINE	IN PERSON/ONLINE	IN PERSON
RECOVERY GROUPS	ONLINE	IN PERSON/ONLINE	IN PERSON/ONLINE	IN PERSON
CROSSPOINT KIDS	ONLINE	ONLINE	ONLINE	IN PERSON
CROSSPOINT STUDENTS	ONLINE	ONLINE	ONLINE	IN PERSON
OFFICES	WORK REMOTELY	STAGGERED	STAGGERED	REGULAR SCHEDULE

As our nation begins to scale back the social distancing guidelines, we have created a phased re-opening plan for our church based on the White House guidelines. In this first section, we will explain the implications of this Phase Plan for Crosspoint Groups.

PHASE ONE

ENDS MAY 22ND

In this phase, we are encouraging groups to continue meeting online. This means using digital platforms like Zoom or Google Hangouts to meet weekly as a group. If you have questions or want more information for what this looks like, be sure to check out our **Leading A Group Online** resource on our website. This phase will continue until May 22nd.

PHASE TWO

BEGINS MAY 22ND

As long as things continue to progress well in our community, we will begin Phase Two on May 22nd. In this phase, groups will be allowed to gather again in person, as long as they maintain the guidelines we have provided (Page 5). Know that this phase is optional for groups, and we are only advising groups that feel comfortable gathering in-person and can maintain our guidelines.

PHASE THREE

TENTATIVELY JUNE 5TH

Phase Three will begin tentatively on June 5th, as long as things continue to progress and improve in our community. The major change in this phase is that groups will be encouraged to gather together for watch parties in their homes on Sundays. While we understand this may not work for every group, we are encouraging groups that can to gather together in homes for worship and the preaching of the Word each week. We will be creating an additional resource on tips for hosting a watch party in the coming weeks.

PHASE FOUR

TO BE DECIDED

In Phase Four, we will return to gathering as a church on Sundays and groups will meet like normal. Our staff will evaluate government guidelines and local health data on a weekly basis to ensure we reopen in a way that is safe for our church family.

PART II:

GUIDELINES FOR GATHERING

If your group is planning to meet again in person, we encourage you to follow these guidelines in order to help us protect our people and help us keep them safe during this time. Our hope is that these guidelines would not be a hinderance to your group, but a help during these unprecedented times.

GUIDELINES

- Maintain a distance of 6ft from other families/spouses (Phase 2)
- Chairs should be 6ft apart in order to maintain social-distancing (Phase 2)
- Wash hands frequently and offer hand sanitizer
- If anyone feels sick or has been around someone who is sick, they should not meet in person

GUIDELINES (CONTINUED)

- Face-masks and gloves are voluntary and not required
- If you are meeting in the home, be sure to disinfect and deep clean the area your group will be meeting (door handles, chairs, surfaces, etc.)

GROUPS MEETING ON-CAMPUS

In order to meet on-campus, please email us at **groups@crosspointcity.com** to reserve a room.

- Every person must sign our new facility waiver before you meet. This waiver will be available for members to sign the first night back
- Group Leaders will need to ask their group members three simple questions to ensure that no one is sick or putting the group at-risk. These questions will be provided for you along with the waiver. You may also need to take their temperature (this may not be mandatory)
- Every room will be sanitized and cleaned thoroughly before and after each group meeting
- We will remove most tables from the rooms for less surfaces to carry germs
- Chairs will be positioned 6ft apart
- Our bathrooms will be available and cleaned after each group meeting
- If a group member would like to wear a mask or gloves, they will need to bring their own. Gloves and face-masks will not be provided
- No food or coffee is allowed to be served on campus
- No kids are permitted on the Crosspoint Campus

If you have any questions about these guidelines or need more information, please contact us at **groups@crosspointcity.com**.

THINGS TO CONSIDER...

Before you pull the trigger on gathering again, you may need to think through the same types of questions every church, restaurant, and retail business is pondering right now. Here are a few questions that we hope will help you as you consider opening your home for your small group again:

- **Will you offer childcare?** For some families, it may take time until they are comfortable leaving their kids in close proximity with other kids, so you may have to stop offering childcare for the time being. Another option could be to have the spouses trade off watching the kids, in order for the men and the women to meet separately. Whatever you decide, make sure the rest of the group is comfortable with the decision.
- **How will you handle food/coffee?** Most groups enjoy food, snacks, or coffee together when they meet. However, how you offer food may need to change in order to prevent cross-contamination. Consider asking people to bring their own coffee/food, or avoiding finger foods.
- **Where will people use the restroom?** If there is only one bathroom available, it may make it undesirable for multiple group members to use during the meeting. If you only have one bathroom, consider offering to Lysol or disinfect after each use.

If you have any questions about these guidelines or need more information, please contact us at groups@crosspointcity.com.

PART III:

LEADING YOUR GROUP TO GATHER AGAIN

We know that these are challenging times for people to navigate, much less trying to lead a small group through this season. Therefore, we wanted to provide some helpful tips for leading your group to gather again.

1. CONSULT WITH YOUR GROUP

While you may be ready to gather again in-person, it is important to feel out the group and see what everyone thinks. The best way to do this is to check in with each individual member and ask for their thoughts on gathering again in-person. If the majority of the group is for it, have those who may be vulnerable to illness or uncomfortable meeting in-person to join via Zoom or video call. It is important that we consider the interest of others before our own when making these decisions (Philippians 2:4).

2. CHOOSE A LOCATION

If your group has decided to gather again, the next step is to choose a location to meet. We recommend meeting at the church or at a location that can provide enough space for social-distancing. Meeting outdoors is also a great option! Wherever you decide to meet, ensure that everyone is comfortable with that location and that you can maintain the given guidelines (Page 5).

3. CHOOSE A DAY/TIME

While your group may decide to gather again, it may mean that you need to adjust the day and time to accommodate for the rest of your group. If your group usually has childcare, you may want to offer one day of the week for the husbands to meet and another day or time for the wives to meet to trade off watching kids. Whatever you decide, it is important that you remain as consistent as you can for the sake of the group.

4. GET CREATIVE

Not every plan should look the same for every group to gather again. It may be a while until your group feels comfortable to gather again in-person, but that does not mean you can't be creative. Meet individually with group members in the meantime, or maybe plan to meet in your cars in a parking lot. Another great idea is to start small, gender-based gatherings if your group is too big or until you sort out childcare again. While it may not be convenient, this could be a time for your group to get creative and figure out what next steps are appropriate for your group to gather again.

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

Below are some common questions that you or a group member may have about our Phased-Plan to gather again. If you have any other questions or need further explanation, please do not hesitate to reach out.

WHAT ABOUT CHILDCARE?

In order to protect families and children, we have decided that it is best to not allow children on-campus until further notice. It is very difficult to have children maintain social distancing, much less keep them safe from the spread of the germs. Therefore, until our Kids Ministry begins meeting again, we will not be allowing children on-campus. We know this may be difficult for some groups, which is why your plan to gather again may look different from other groups. However, we entrust you and your group to make the right decision for how you will handle childcare. If you need help with ideas for what to do, please reach out and we would love to help!

WHY DO WE NEED TO SIGN A WAIVER TO MEET ON-CAMPUS?

Waivers are not ideal. However, because a staff member is not always on-campus when a group meets, we require that everyone in the group sign our new waiver. This waiver will protect our staff, pastors, elders, and group leaders from being responsible for any damages, accidents, or incidents that may occur when your group meets. We are asking all group members to sign our new waiver because it is updated with information regarding COVID-19.

WHAT IF I HAVE A GROUP MEMBER WHO DISAGREES WITH OUR DECISION?

We know that these are challenging times for people to navigate, and not everyone in your group may agree with the group's decision or the guidelines. If you have conflict with a group member, it is best to approach them individually and listen to them. Pray before you speak with them, and seek to pursue peace. If the group member continues to cause any issues or creates more conflict, feel free to reach out to us for further help.

HOW CAN I MAINTAIN THESE GUIDELINES OVER TIME?

After a few meetings in-person, it may be really tempting to loosen the guidelines and not maintain social distancing. This is understandable, but as the group leader, we ask that you help us to prioritize the protection of your group members during this time. Be sure to go over the guidelines with your group so they are clear on expectations. If you notice a group member breaking any guidelines, simply remind them (it's really easy to forget sometimes!). If your group continues to maintain them after a while, it should become second-nature for your group members.