

Gospel Relationships

(1) We encourage you to lean into in-person conversations and connecting opportunities to the degree that you're comfortable doing so. We simply ask that you consider the question, "Is what I'm contemplating wise and loving?"

(2) We understand that there are those who won't venture into the in-person experience of gospel relationships for some time. We love you and want to be mindful of you as we phase our church in the coming weeks and months. We encourage you to utilize the available digital platforms to stay connected to people as best you can. We're happy to provide you with access to Zoom if helpful in engaging others in gospel-centered conversations and connecting points.

Community Groups

(1) As a church, we typically take a break from the formality of Community Groups in June and July. For the most part, we're going to take that same approach this summer. What this means is that we're counting on group leaders and members to discuss what you're comfortable with beyond the digital-only Community Group interactions over the summer. As you talk through a plan for June and July, we ask that you make sure that your plan includes the values of *unity* (not a plan that creates an "us versus them" experience for those willing to gather in person and those choosing to remain digital for now) and *connectedness* (not a plan – or lack thereof – that creates a situation in which you and your group don't interact with each other for two months).

(2) Because it's the one way we can ensure that people are connecting in a unified way over the summer months, we are setting the expectation that Community Groups meet three times via Zoom over the course of the summer (mid-June, the turn from June to July, and mid-July). Your group is certainly welcome to meet more frequently. These gatherings are intended to simply be a time of fellowship, sharing of updates and needs, and prayer. Leadership will provide an outline that will help to facilitate those times together.

Sunday Gatherings

(1) We will continue to offer streamed services and online resources so that all of our people can reengage at a pace that is best suited for them and their families.

(2) That said, our tentative plan is to host a family-style bring-your-own-blanket-or-chair outdoor service on our front lawn on June 7th (a shorter service with no formal kids ministry). That service will include the following precautions: social distancing practices, no greeters or connect guides, individual prepackaged communion cups, no passing of an offering basket, sanitation of publicly accessible equipment, hand sanitizer accessibility, and the incorporation of hands-free faucets, soap dispensers, and trashcans in the restrooms. Should weather fail to cooperate, all be will encouraged to engage via the digital platform.

(3) Assuming that the June 7th gathering is a positive experience and that there aren't any overarching concerns coming out of that time together, we'll host a second outdoor service on our front lawn on June 21st. On the basis of how those first two gatherings go, we'll determine whether it's best to continue meeting biweekly or to make the shift into weekly outdoor gatherings. As leadership, we will approach the month of June with a commitment to (1) thinking through any future phase-two strategies and (2) being open to return to a digital-only platform if need be.