



Covid-19 Gathering Instructions

PHASE 3 REQUIREMENTS FOR RESUMING GATHERING AS A CHURCH

OUR NEXT STEPS TOWARD REGATHERING

This document is intended to keep you, others, and our city safe as we continue to regather as a church amidst the Covid-19 global pandemic. Our goal is to be wise and prudential, without giving into unnecessary fear, as we take this step together. *Therefore, please read these instructions in their entirety before registering to attend a Sunday gathering.*

According to the governor's Phase 3 guidelines, we are continuing to resume meeting together in accordance with the state's [guidance](#) for churches ([May 2021 update](#)). Phase 3 permits indoor church gatherings for up to 50% of the capacity of the room, with groups of up to 15 individuals and 6-foot social distancing between groups. Based on the size of our gathering space, this translates to up to about 250 people.

In light of this, we ask that you pre-register to attend a Sunday gathering as a way to ensure we have enough seats for everyone.

Our gatherings are open to all—whether you are a member, non-member, visiting Seattle, or a skeptic exploring the claims of Jesus—you are welcome to pre-register to join us. However, please bear in mind that these times together will not be normal *yet*:

- We are seating people in groups of at most 15—the largest group size permitted.
- For those uncomfortable sitting with others, we will have some socially distanced seating available.
- We will continue to wear face masks (with the exception of those on a microphone).
- We are offering [Cornerstone Kids](#) during the 9am gathering—for 1-3 year olds to begin with.
- We will not be providing hospitality beverages (coffee, tea, etc.)

Additionally, we ask that you familiarize yourself with the health and safety guidelines to follow. Please read these instructions in their entirety to learn how gathering may impact you. While they may appear burdensome, they are a small sacrifice to ensure the safety of one another and our city. Let's pray that God would be glorified through this ongoing unusual season and that he would give us wisdom each step of the way.

HEALTH & SAFETY GUIDANCE

In keeping with governmental guidelines, we ask all attendees to comply with the following:

#1 PERSONAL RESPONSIBILITY & LIABILITY

We are doing our best to create an environment with a relatively low-risk of transmitting Covid-19. However, it is impossible to eliminate all risk. Therefore, please assess your comfort level with the potential risks before attending. To help maintain a safe and comfortable environment, we ask every attendee to take



personal responsibility for themselves, including wearing face masks and following sanitation protocols as set by governing authorities and prudential wisdom.

#2 PRE-GATHERING WELLNESS CHECK

All attendees are requested to check their temperature prior to attending on Sunday. A healthy temperature is under [100.4 degrees fahrenheit](#). If any of the following applies to you, or a member of your household, please *do not* attend but join us via livestream:

1. You have experienced symptoms consistent with Covid-19 within the past 7 days. Symptoms include fever over 100.4 degrees, cough, sore throat, shortness of breath, and others as described by the [CDC](#).
2. You have had [close contact](#) with someone confirmed to have Covid-19 in the past 14 days, and are not vaccinated.
3. You have tested positive for Covid-19 within the past 14 days.

Please note that any person exhibiting symptoms consistent with Covid-19 may be asked to leave.

#3 FACE MASKS

In order to abide by the Phase 3 guidelines, all attendees must wear a mask while in the building (The CDC recommends, but does not require that children age 2-4 wear a face mask. In light of that, we too are recommending but not requiring that children age 2-4 wear a face mask). For those who may be unable to wear a mask due to difficulty breathing, or other personal reasons, we kindly ask that you continue to join us via livestream in this season. We recommend all attendees bring their own masks, however a limited number of masks will be available for those in need. Again, face masks will be required so please plan accordingly.

#4 PRE-REGISTRATION

In order to help us abide by state specified gathering limits and to ensure each gathering (9am & 11am) is evenly distributed, we ask that you pre-register all members of your household (children, roommates, etc), or group, that will be attending via the provided registration link. Pre-registration links are made available via our weekly *DCC News* emails as well as on [our website](#).

SUNDAY MORNING

PARKING

The parking lots adjacent to the building *will* be available. If both parking lots are full, validated parking at the Bell Harbor Parking Garage on 2323 Elliott Ave is also available. You may also utilize street parking around the building (free on Sunday).

ENTRANCE

Only the front entrance (Western) will be used in this season. The alley-way entrance will *not* be used.



SEATING

Gatherings will begin at 9am and 11am. However, please plan to arrive 15 minutes ahead in order to allow time for seating.

SANITATION

Hand sanitizing stations are located throughout the building.

BEVERAGES

In order to reduce additional exposure points, we will *not* be serving beverages (e.g. coffee, tea). However, cold and hot water will be available. Therefore, you are welcome to bring your own tea for personal use.

RESTROOMS

Restrooms will be frequently cleaned and sanitized. Please wash your hands thoroughly after using the restroom.

COMMUNION

We will be celebrating the Lord's Supper. However, individual communion cups will be used.

GIVING

You can give via the giving box on Sundays or continue to [give online](#) in this season.

NURSERY AND KIDS MINISTRY

We are unable to offer nursery services. However, we are offering [Cornerstone Kids](#) for 1-3 year olds, and only during the 9am gathering. If you plan to have your children with you at the gathering, we ask parents to keep them with you at all times to ensure social distancing. The nursing room in the back of the auditorium will be available for a nursing mother, and the MPR downstairs will be available for a limited number of families who are caring for wiggly children. The service will be livestreamed to the MPR and nursing room.

AFTER THE SERVICE

At the conclusion of the service, attendees are welcome to fellowship while social distancing in the auditorium. However, all aisles must be kept clear. Attendees are also welcome to fellowship outside the building while maintaining outdoor social distancing guidelines.

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

Q: How often can I attend?

We are no longer gathering on rotations. This means that everyone is welcome to attend every Sunday at 9am or 11am.

Q: What if I would like to gather on Sunday, but I don't want to (or can't) wear a mask?

In order to abide by the ongoing guidelines, we are requiring all attendees to wear a mask while in the building (excluding children under the age of two, per CDC). For those who are unable to wear a mask due



to difficulty breathing, or for personal reasons, we kindly ask that you continue to join us via livestream in this season.

Q: Can I attend without pre-registering?

Because we are trying to maximize the occupancy of the entire room each week and create equity among as many as we can, we ask that you pre-register in order to attend a gathering.

Q: What if I can no longer attend on a Sunday I registered for?

Please email gatherings@downtowncornerstone.org so we can open up your spot(s) to another member.

Q: Can I bring a friend?

Yes, but we ask that you pre-register them with you to attend.

Q: What if I am serving?

If you are scheduled to serve with the band or with productions we will account for your attendance on that given week. If a spouse or family member is joining you, you will need to add them to your registration or have them register.

Q: Is there a liability risk to us gathering?

Although there is an increased risk of transmitting Covid-19 anytime people are getting together, in order to mitigate as much risk as possible, we are abiding by the state guidelines and restrictions we have been given. Nevertheless, we want to remind everyone of the personal risk and liability each person is taking in choosing to gather with us. As such, all participants will be asked to agree to the following statement:

“By participating with us, you hereby affirm that you understand the potential health risk of attending a large gathering. You also agree to release and hold harmless Downtown Cornerstone Church and its employees from any and all liability, claims, and demands of whatever kind or nature, either in law or in equity, which arise or may hereafter arise from you or your family attending an official church gathering, should anyone in your household become infected with Covid-19.”

Q: Will my information be turned over to contact tracers in the event someone tests positive with Covid-19 shortly after gathering with us?

No. If we are notified of a confirmed Covid-19 case after someone has recently gathered with us, we will send out a notification to those who attended the gathering and encourage the infected person to reach out to anyone specifically they might have had close contact with, but as a church, we do not plan on turning over any information to contact tracers.

ADDITIONAL QUESTIONS?

If you have specific questions that are not addressed in this regathering guide, please don't hesitate to reach out and email info@downtowncornerstone.org.