



# COVID-19 GATHERING PLAN

A reintegration response team, composed of members of the Gayton staff, Facilities Task Group (FTG), and the Servant Leadership Council (SLC), are working together to formulate the best course of action to safely reestablish in-person gatherings both in the church building and other creative venues. The safety of those who gather together regularly as part of Gayton, as well as our surrounding community, is extremely important. We want to love our neighbors well by keeping them well!

Many sources of data and information weigh into the formulation of Gayton's 3 phases for re-gathering: recommendations from the BGAV, the CDC, the Governor's office, insight from other churches, medical professionals, and other sources. Most importantly, our plan needs to be tailored to the unique needs, strengths, and challenges of our congregation, our involvement in the community, and our physical space.

**This is Phase 1.** We will release Phase 2 and 3 when they are fully developed.

*We are currently in Phase 1. We do not have a solid timeline of when Phase 2 or 3 will be reached.*

## WORSHIP GATHERINGS & PROGRAMMING CONTINUE ONLINE

Worship Gatherings and ministry programming will remain online only for the time being. Sunday morning worship will remain at 9:30 and 10:45. Our Kids and Student Ministries will continue to publish content online via Facebook and Youtube. Additional content will continue to be published throughout the week through Facebook, Instagram, and Youtube, as well as other connecting opportunities.

## WE ARE PREPARING FOR RE-OPENING THE BUILDING IN PHASE 2

During Phase 1, we will continue to plan and prepare the congregation and building for eventual reopening in Gayton's Phase 2. This includes increased cleaning and sanitization, posting signage with COVID-19 public health reminders, and maintaining thorough cleaning and disinfection of frequently contacted surfaces. Additional precautions are being exercised with the limited re-opening of the SPACE and plans for QUEST this summer.

## STAFF WILL CONTINUE TO PRIMARILY WORK FROM HOME

We are beginning to increase office functionality, while limiting it to essential operations only, and staff members who can effectively complete their current responsibilities from home are encouraged to continue doing so. Staff members working and members of our church family serving in various tasks in the building will wear masks in communal areas or areas outside of their immediate office space.

## PRIVATE HOUSE CHURCH GATHERINGS

While the team does not officially encourage or discourage private gatherings of people outside of the immediate family (we recommend virtual meetings), we recognize that some may choose to gather with their small group or other close friends and family for worship or study. We will soon provide a "best practices" infographic to help you think through how to best execute a small gathering safely.

## OTHER CREATIVE GATHERING OPTIONS

Many churches have held drive-in church gatherings on their property or remote locations. This is an option that continues to be evaluated. Our church grounds pose significant logistical challenges due to the limited parking in any one area. The staff team is also exploring other possible creative gathering options and we will communicate options as they are cautiously worked through and developed.