



C3 Denton's 90 Day Response Plan for COVID-19

March 25, 2020 Version 1.0

C3 Denton is making changes to match the current realities before us in this unprecedented new reality created by COVID-19. These changes are based on the understanding that this virus and its effects aren't going away in just a few weeks. The needs of our community and congregation will continue to change—so should our ministry and approach. In the interest of preparation, we think it wisest to retool in order to comply with quarantine and shelter directives, as well as evolving needs, for the next 3 months. We would love more than anything to be wrong about the timing, and of course we will reevaluate regularly along the way.

In light of that, here is how we will walk together as the body of Christ over the next 3 months:

Communication

Our top priority as a church was and still is to define the rules of engagement for life and ministry in the new reality of COVID-19. It's vital to set clear expectations and instructions for the primary channels of outgoing and incoming communication. Establishing the ground rules as soon as possible will provide everyone with a sense of stability, ease concerns, and lessen the likelihood of misinformation.

As a church, we want to be a source of peace, hope, and stability in uncertain times. As preachers, teachers, leaders, and gospel-believing church members, we know the power of words. Now more than ever, people in our congregation and community need a word of encouragement and clarity, without downplaying or dismissing the seriousness and complexity of the situation. We simply aren't experts when it comes to handling a health crisis, no matter how many podcasts, articles, posts, or tweets we've been exposed to. We are, however, called by God and empowered by His Spirit to lead in love for the glory of Jesus' name.

Our website is the front door to our church, and finding relevant information on our website is paramount. We've updated our landing page to direct people to our live stream content and our Vulnerability Care form. We've added a COVID-19 page that contains the most important and urgent information. Our 90 day plan and myriad other resources are available on that page.

- Website link: <https://c3denton.com/>

Email is still the best way to communicate directly with our congregation, particularly during this time. While we are expanding our social media we are not solely relying on it. Email is our best opportunity to share our message, allowing more space to expand thoughts and provide links

and other media all in one place. It's also more easily searched, saved, and revisited than most social media.

- Tell us you want to join our email list via our Contact Us link:
<https://c3denton.com/contact-us/>

Social Media is one of the best tools we have to continue ministry outside of Sunday morning. People are listening now more than ever for a message of love and hope. It is vital that we are actively sharing that gospel message on our social media accounts. Interact with others's posts by commenting, sharing, creating watch parties, asking questions, and live streaming. We can counter the emotional ramifications of social distancing (isolation, anxiety, boredom, stress, and hopelessness) by being present and sharing information that isn't based in fear but in hope.

- C3 Facebook page link: <https://www.facebook.com/c3dentonpage/>
- C3 YouTube link: <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCMlhYcXM8G3PBuBwp9dEWug>
- C3 Instagram link: https://www.instagram.com/c3_denton/
- Weekly schedule link:
<https://c3denton.com/wp-content/uploads/2020/03/Gathering-While-Scattered.png>

ZOOM is an online platform helping us meet together even though we are far apart. It has replaced several of our existing gatherings and it is helping us resolve new gathering needs. Zoom meeting information will be distributed through email and facebook. Please download the app or join via a web browser to be part of our virtual gatherings.

- Weekly schedule link:
<https://c3denton.com/wp-content/uploads/2020/03/Gathering-While-Scattered.png>

Church Center is the way that our group leaders can most easily communicate to their teams, utilizing it in posting resources, relaying information, and maintaining team rosters to ensure we are reaching all our people. We are encouraging all leaders to keep their groups up to date with the most accurate information. We are also asking that all our people ensure their personal information is up to date, including email and cell phone number. The C3 Partner group in Church Center will be used to communicate COVID-19 information and crucial partnership matters.

- Church Center groups link: <https://c3denton.churchcenter.com/groups>

Text messages will be utilized to communicate the most crucial information to our people, as email can feel overloaded with so many people and organizations sharing their COVID-19 responses. This information will include any major health crisis updates, major changes to our church, and partnership information to our partner group. We are asking that all our people ensure their personal information is up to date in Church Center, including email and cell phone number. Otherwise go to our Contact Us page and tell us you'd like to be added to our text message list.

- Church Center groups link: <https://c3denton.churchcenter.com/groups>
- Tell us you want to join our text message list via our Contact Us link:
<https://c3denton.com/contact-us/>

Sunday Service

Sunday gatherings will be moving online using various platforms in order to include as many people as possible. Our service will still include the familiar elements of worship, preaching, prayer, and C3Kids.

In order to achieve this our Sunday morning leaders are reorienting their responsibilities around providing the online service, and additional leaders are being brought on to assist with the new technologies and platforms we will be using. During production we will strictly follow government directives for group size and hygiene standards.

- Sunday service stream Facebook link: <https://www.facebook.com/c3dentonpage>
- Sunday service stream YouTube link: <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCMIhYcXM8G3PBuBwp9dEWug>
- Sunday service stream website link: <https://c3denton.com/live-streaming/>

C3Kids consists of two categories: 1) the interactive Sunday morning lesson and 2) parent resources available during the week allowing parents to teach the curriculum at the time that works best for them.

C3Kids lessons (including a video and resources) will be shared each Thursday via the C3 fb page, C3 fb partner group, and our parent email list. Accompanying the lessons post will be a video offering encouragement and inspiration to our families.

On Sunday mornings C3Kids ministry will very closely resemble the preexisting ministry. The weekly lesson videos will be live at 10am on fb and c3denton.com, we will be moderating the feed and creating an interactive environment. Jpgs of color sheets and sermon notes will be shared and followup communications and emails will continue to be sent out as before.

- C3Kids stream Facebook link: <https://www.facebook.com/c3dentonpage>
- C3Kids stream website link: <https://c3denton.com/live-streaming/>
- C3Kids stream YouTube link: <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCMIhYcXM8G3PBuBwp9dEWug>

Prayer will continue to be vital to our Sunday service, our church, and our community. Prayer requests will be submitted using an online form posted and highlighted during the Sunday service stream. Prayer requests will continue to remain private and will be prayed for by our prayer team each week. Outside of Sunday there will be three other times during the week that we will meet virtually for prayer, please see our Gathering While Scattered schedule.

- Prayer request link: <https://c3denton.churchcenter.com/people/forms/114460>

Generosity will be crucial as financial needs will continue to increase. While a great number of things have changed, our mission has not- to show the beauty of Jesus to the heart of Denton so that lives can be renewed by the power of the gospel.

- Online giving is more important than ever. Please create an account and set up one-time or recurring gifts so we can not only attend to the needs of our church, but also our greater community
- Online giving link: <https://c3denton.givingfire.com/>
- Text to give information: 940-241-4283 (GAVE)
 - Text the word 'give' followed by the dollar amount

Sermon Series will be adjusted to address our current time and needs. Our Here & Now series will be moved to fall 2020. A new My Anchor Holds series, focusing on the bedrock truths we can cling to, will take us to Easter. We WILL have an online Easter service. Our sermon content after Easter is currently being developed.

Pastoral Rhythm

We have developed a new schedule of ways that our leaders can continue to be a calming and reassuring presence to our people and community. We now have online versions of some of our previous ministries. We have also added new rhythms so our people can continue to gather even while we are scattered, feeling the power and comfort of the community God has placed us in.

Gathering While Scattered- our weekly rhythm:

- Sunday
 - C3Kids- 10a; Facebook, c3denton.com, YouTube
 - Sunday service- 10:30a; Facebook, c3denton.com, YouTube
- Monday
 - Devotional- Pastor Cody- 9a; Facebook, YouTube
 - Call to Prayer- 8p; Zoom
- Tuesday
 - Devotional- Pastor Ross- 9a; Facebook, YouTube
- Wednesday
 - Town Hall- 8p; Zoom
- Thursday
 - Devotional- Pastor Ross- 9a; Facebook, YouTube
 - Pray with the elders- 12p; Zoom
 - C3Kids Resources & Inspiration-3p; Facebook, YouTube
 - Worship Stream- 6p; Facebook, c3denton.com, YouTube
- Friday
 - Young Adults- 7p; Zoom

- Parishes, LTG's, Women's, Men's, and other ministries will continue to meet virtually throughout the week. Contact us for details.

Group Gatherings

One of the primary ways our people are being cared for is that our group leaders are staying in contact with their members, calling them regularly to check in, discovering pain points, and discussing ways to meet needs that are known. Groups will continue to utilize Church Center, posting information and maintaining team rosters to ensure we are reaching all our people.

- Church Center groups link: <https://c3denton.churchcenter.com/groups>

Needs that are discovered and can't be met within the group are sent to our new Vulnerability Care team (see the Caring For People Within Our Church section).

- Serving & Needs form link: <https://c3denton.churchcenter.com/people/forms/117942>

We continue to recommend official quarantine and shelter advisements to all our groups, but if travel and personal interaction are necessary for meeting essential needs a strict following of the CDC hygiene guidelines is required.

Groups such as Parishes, LTG's, C3YA, Women of the Word, Men's Ministry, C3Kids, Family Game Night and others are determining the best way for their particular ministries to move forward. Many of these have transitioned to an online format for the next 90 days. Each group is deciding which platform works best for their people and their context. Our Facilities deacon is scheduling all group meetings and training leaders on Zoom and other virtual meeting software. Check our Gathering While Scattered schedule for more details.

Our Exploring Partnership class and Partner Meetings will also continue even during this time. They will both be conducted over Zoom and accompanying resources will be distributed ahead of time.

Families

Our families need to know that we are thinking about them. We have four main ways of reaching out, connecting, and encouraging our many families over the next few months.

Personal calls from our C3Kids leaders to check in on families are our crucial first line of connection and care.

Each Thursday our C3Kids lessons (including a video and resources) will be shared via the C3 fb page, C3 fb partner group, and our parent email list. Accompanying the lessons post will be a video offering encouragement and inspiration to our families.

Each Sunday morning C3Kids ministry will be live at 10am on fb and c3denton.com, we will be moderating the feed and creating an interactive environment. Jpgs of color sheets and sermon

notes will be shared and followup communications and emails will continue to be sent out as before.

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Other resources throughout the week will be posted by the C3Kids team to help families with activities, devotionals, and caring for each other.

Caring for people within the church

Caring for one another is essential during this time, and we are asking that everyone at C3 play a part in that effort. One of the primary ways our people are being cared for is that our group leaders are staying in contact with their members, calling them regularly to check in, discovering pain points, and discussing ways to meet needs that are known. Needs that are discovered are sent to our new Vulnerability Care team.

The Vulnerability Care team is a task force helping us identify and care for those whose need during this time is especially great. We've created a form allowing people in our church who have skills, resources, and giftings to connect with serving opportunities and make an impact on many people's lives. Our Vulnerability Care team is interacting with five major categories that COVID-19 is applying an even greater pressure to:

- COVID exposure- those who've been exposed to the virus or who have tested positive
- Elderly / Immune-compromised- those who are at greater health risk if infected
- Disconnected - those who aren't plugged into a parish or other ministry group
- Counseling needs- those who need additional mental health resources
- Financial crisis- those who have entered financial crisis because of job loss, medical expenses or some other COVID related experience

Many people have relationships and families to fall back on when things get more difficult. But for some people, the only relationships they know, the only resources they have, are the church. It is these people for whom the line between 'difficulty' and 'crisis' is incredibly thin. Our Vulnerability Care team is helping identify, connect, and serve this group in particular during this time.

- Vulnerability Care form link: <https://c3denton.churchcenter.com/people/forms/117942>

Community Outreach

In a time when our society is gripped by panic and fear of the unknown, people look to the Church to remind them of a God who is caring and sovereign. While we all have concern, we are channeling our concern into loving and serving both God and people. As John Wesley put it, "Since [God] is invisible to our eyes, we are to serve Him in our neighbor; which he receives as if done to Himself in person, standing visibly before us."

Times like this are a unique opportunity to be the hands and feet of Jesus, and the primary way we are doing that for those around us is by receiving and distributing essential hygiene and cleaning items. We are working directly with CarePortal and Salvation Army- they've identified the greatest needs and we've appointed an emergency leader to coordinate and distribute all of our donations. We've created an Amazon wishlist to allow anyone to participate and still uphold quarantine and shelter ordinances.

- Amazon wishlist link:

https://www.amazon.com/hz/wishlist/ls/DLEIVHI9ON29?ref_=wl_share

Senior citizens are some of the most vulnerable among us. We are helping our seniors who live in nursing homes and assisted living facilities feel loved and not forgotten. An emergency leader is coordinating an effort to have our kids draw pictures and/or write letters for these folks. Here are the details:

- Use regular size paper 8.5 x 11 for letters and artwork
- Mail the artwork/letters to:

Texas Home Health Hospice
Attn Tracy Miller
225 W Mulberry St. , Ste A
Denton, TX 76210

Our Vulnerability Care team (see the Caring for People within the Church section) will also be connecting people in our community who have filled out our care form on our website and social media posts.

- Vulnerability Care form link: <https://c3denton.churchcenter.com/people/forms/117942>