



COVID-19 Plan- This Winter

December 20, 2020 Version 1.0

We've been blessed as a church to remain unified during this pandemic. Over the fall we cautiously engaged more opportunities to encourage and serve each other and our community and we have seen tremendous success. Connection remains critical to meeting our relational and spiritual needs. Cases of COVID-19 have increased, to minimize the transmission of the virus we will continue to be faithful, wise, and cautious. We will return to masking the entire time we gather on Sundays. Distancing and hand washing/sanitizing will remain in place. Keep in mind that we will not hesitate to modify this plan should the need arise, below are the steps we are taking to stay a healthy church throughout the winter (**December, January, and February**).

Face Masks & Social Distancing

During gatherings **face masks will be required at all times** again as they are the best way to minimize the spread of germs, something that is especially important during this peak season where cases are reaching new levels. This is also a simple way we can love and serve families in our church who are only able to attend if everyone is masked the whole time. We will continue to **maintain 6 foot social distancing standards**, asking people to refrain from hugs and high fives for now. Please see the Sunday Service section for more details about Sundays.

Sunday Service

Sunday gatherings will continue to happen both in person at our building and online through our live stream.

Please attend and share our live stream if you are unable to worship with us in person on Sunday mornings, for whatever reason. We will continue to focus on the quality of our live stream as a way to serve and bless those who cannot gather with us. And know that we love you and miss you.

- 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/>

We encourage you to safely gather with the saints in person on Sunday mornings if you are able. Here are the guidelines we are following this fall:

- **Masks are required** when you enter the building and at all times while you are in the building other than when you have checked out a private room.

- Practice **social distancing**, please refrain from handshakes & hugs for now
- **C3Kids is currently open for Toddlers & Pre-K**. Our **Elementary** class will open in January. All children are invited to join our main service
- **Private rooms are available** should you or your children need one for any reason. Feel free to remove your mask inside your private room
- Please take advantage of the **hand sanitizing stations** and grab resources for your kids on the way in
- Sit wherever you like, **please keep 3 chairs between yourself and other groups**
- Ushers are available if you need help finding seats that meet your needs
- Coffee will not be available, so bring some from home!
- We will not hesitate to postpone service and **reconsider our plan if necessary**

C3Kids currently has Toddler and Pre-K classes (Elementary starting in January) using strategies and procedures that are inline with the best shepherding of our little ones and which comply with all regulations.

C3Kids will also continue it's online Sunday morning lesson as well as emailing and posting parent resources available during the week.

C3Kids lessons (including a video and resources) will be shared each week 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 continue as it has for the previous few months, very closely resemble the preexisting ministry. The weekly lesson videos will be live at 10am on fb and c3denton.com. Jpgs of color sheets and sermon notes will be shared and followup communications and emails will continue to be sent out as before.

- C3Kids Re-Opening Strategy:
<https://c3denton.com/wp-content/uploads/2020/10/C3Kids-Reopening-Strategy.pdf>
- 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 Sunday service. Prayer requests will continue to remain private and will be prayed for by our prayer team each week.

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

Generosity remains crucial as the pandemic continues and financial needs 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 continue as planned. In January we will begin our series Suffering with a Point. In late January we will begin Here & Now series. We will also preach through the book of Acts in our series God on Mission.

- Sermon audio and video can be found at: <https://c3denton.com/sermons/>.

Communication

It is still 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.

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 and to be sources of peace and hope in uncertain times.

Our website is the front door to our church, and finding relevant information on our website is paramount. We'll continue to have a landing page to direct people to our live stream content and our Vulnerability Care form. We'll continue our COVID-19 page that contains important and urgent information as well as our plans and other resources.

- 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 for a message of love and hope, the recent concerns with injustice, racism,

and violence are increasing that as well as making clear communication through social media very difficult. 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/

ZOOM is an online platform helping us meet together even though we are often far apart. We will be doing less on Zoom than in the previous months, but will continue using it for meetings where it makes the most sense. Zoom meeting information will be distributed through email and facebook. Please download the app or join via a web browser to be part of those meetings.

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/>

Pastoral Care

The elders are continuing to focus their pastoral efforts on having relational meetings with all of the congregants of C3, getting face to face (or voice to voice if need be) to better check in on the spiritual and relational well being of our flock. It will be a great time to discuss struggles, address issues, and work together to promote unity during such a difficult time. An elder will

reach out to you to set up a time to get together, we think this focused time will bear tremendous fruit.

Partner meetings will continue to be on ZOOM during the summer. We will not have a partner meeting in December, our monthly rhythm will continue in January. If for any reason we should need an emergency or otherwise unscheduled partner meeting it would be announced according to our constitution and held over ZOOM.

There will be other pastoral opportunities throughout the winter- times of prayer, topical discussions, and other events as they arise.

Group Gatherings

Parishes and Life Transformation Groups (and other off-campus groups) will continue to meet in a manner that best meets the needs of the group as determined by that group's leaders. We do not require off-campus groups to meet remotely, but we continue to strongly recommend social distancing standards and strict following of the CDC hygiene guidelines. Other off-campus groups include Women of the Word, Men's Ministry.

Meeting arrangements for on-campus groups, including service teams, Arise, C3YA, Family Game Night, Devotion & Doctrine, Exploring Partnership, and others will be determined on an individual basis in cooperation with those group leaders. Partner meetings will continue to be on ZOOM for the foreseeable future.

Our group leaders will continue to stay in contact with their members, serving as one of our primary ways to keep people connected during this tough time. 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>

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.

Throughout the week our C3Kids 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. 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>
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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.