

Antioch U.S.

Church Guide For Going Digital

Leading Your Church:

- Initiate worship, fasting, prayer. Many churches are doing IGTV or YouTube live prayer meetings.

Antioch churches are joining together to set up 24/7 prayer nation-wide (see Antioch.org/ updates for more information).

- Send content out to the church daily. Remember that people need stability, peace, and hope!

This can include social media, YouTube, etc.

- Support your Lifegroup leaders to lead their groups (see below).
- Pursue online streaming / pre-recorded services: [Training Guide Here](#).
- Establish a benevolence account at the church to help the most financially at-risk. Consider asking a businessperson to help set this up and collect donations.
- Consistently check in with all elderly, homebound, and at-risk in your church to ensure they are cared for. Many are required to stay in their homes and will need a personal connection through a phone call. Stay connected regarding practical needs.

Serving Your Community:

- Coordinate with your school district, other churches, and non-profits to help with food distribution for lower income families. Schools are often providing meals but kids don't have buses to get there. Also consider other needs, such as school supplies for families with kids at home.
- Provide childcare for healthcare professionals and other first responders (think through child safety protocol if you set this up!)
- Encourage Lifegroups to check in with their neighbors. Consider no-touch options, such as phone calls, texts, or leaving a note on the door.
- Form a group with local pastors to coordinate service to the community.
- Encourage the church to donate blood.
- Reinforce the communication from your local city to ensure people get the message and to encourage support for the city's response initiatives.
- Encourage people to support local businesses while maintaining social distancing. This includes delivery, take-out, online orders, and gift cards.

Structuring Your Response:

- Establish a task force with people who can oversee the areas your church engages. This can be staff or volunteers. Connect as a team daily.
- Send out a daily update to your staff or even your whole congregation.
- Encourage most staff to work remotely while also ensuring the staff is very accessible to one another and to the congregation. Zoom is a great tool for this.

Organizing Your Lifegroups:

We are asking each Lifegroup leadership team to do the following:

- Set up virtual communication channels (You may need to appoint someone to set up them up. Instructional videos will be set up by Thursday for those who need).
 - Group Me for text
 - Voxer group for men and women
 - Zoom¹ for virtual meetings (40-minute limit for free version, upgrade for a month for \$14.99)
- Stay connected with your group.
 - Try to check in daily w/ tips, prayer
 - Ask for needs and be radically generous. For needs beyond the scope of the group, connect with your pastor. Lifegroups are the frontlines for care
 - Use voice & video more than normal to promote a personal touch during a time of isolation
- Host Lifegroup weekly using virtual tools such as Zoom.
 - You will probably need a smaller group to facilitate a virtual meeting smoothly so consider multiplying or breaking into separate men's and women's groups.
 - Where and when it is again safe to meet physically, be sure to keep it within the government guidelines (for example, breaking into small men's and women's group without kids) and strictly require that no one may attend if they are sick, live with someone who is sick, or have recently traveled.
- Appoint a digital leader for kids to set up at least one thing online for kids per week. AKM will distribute ideas.
- Support your city's response.

¹ FaceTime is a good option if you know everyone in your group has an iPhone, others prefer Google hangouts