



CHURCH SERVICE ALTERNATIVES

1. Video Based Online

Record an entire service or just the teaching portion of the service and make it accessible to congregants via a social media or web platform. The most popular and free services are Facebook and Youtube. Churches and pastors who are not accustomed to live streaming may consider pre-recording their messages and posting scheduling the post to appear at the time of a typical service. To provide an interactive element assign a moderator to interact with those watching in the comment section of your video. The moderator can post online giving links in the comments also.

2. Watch Parties

Have a family sign up to host a watch party on Sunday at their house on Sunday mornings. Have the families watch either a livestream of a message or a recorded message together. Provide prayer points so they can pray together and talking points from your message. Watch parties can be created on Facebook video. Watch parties can be created with two or three families meeting together.

3. Multiple Locations Within the Church

With the recommendation of the COVID-19 Task Force that there should not be any meetings larger than 10 people (4/17/20), churches with multi-room facilities could split up their congregation to meet in separate locations. For example 10, in the Sanctuary, 10 in the Fellowship Hall, 10 in a large class room. With this option there could be multiple speakers that preach the same message or a video message from the Pastor. If this is an option for your church each of the meeting places need to use a separate entrance and exit insuring that the meeting rooms do not mingle.

4. Scheduled Times of Worship

Your church could set up multiple services over one day or several days and have families sign up for a time slot to come to service. This could be an option for smaller churches.

5. Home Church/House Groups

Identify families that are mature enough to lead a home church gathering. The Pastor could prepare the study and share talking points, prayer points, and action responses. Each host family could report back so attendance could be tracked. The Pastor could schedule weekly meetings with each host family to invest in them and give direction. Families should do their best to limit attendance to the suggested meeting sizes.

6. Outdoor Meetings

Pastors and church leaders may consider this option after checking with local health authorities. Outdoor options provide appropriate boundaries for social distancing and can provide the closest option to a typical congregational gathering. Meet and greet time with physical touch should be avoided during these meetings. This option provides the ability to continue with live worship and live preaching.