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## Sharing CCC's Phased Reopening Plans



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Christ Community Church Family,

We greatly miss meeting to worship and fellowship together and are looking forward to the day when we can meet again. We love you all and that love makes us want to get together now but that same love also makes us very protective of you.

The Elders and Pastors have prayerfully discussed the topic of reopening and have decided on the high-level approach, shared in the video above, to a phased reopening based on current information.

We understand that there are differing opinions on reopening. Our decision is based on our desire to shepherd our church by protecting the vulnerable and viewing COVID-19 as an opportunity to witness to the watching world. The church is not a building, it's so much more than that. We are still the church, but for a little while longer, we are the church *deployed*.

So What's the Plan?

As you're looking at the phased reopening chart, included below, please note that these are fluid guidelines based on current, but often quickly changing, information. Also know that we plan to maintain our online weekend worship option indefinitely. This will ensure that we are still reaching those who may not be comfortable or able to come back to on campus services for some time.

During Phase 1, nothing will change from how we're currently operating, aside from the addition of some new digital offerings designed to allow more connection among our church body. The CCC campus will remain closed, but we feel comfortable allowing Life Groups to begin considering off campus meetings, preferably outdoors, in line with NC guidelines.

During Phase 2, as group size limits increase and social distancing requirements decrease, we will encourage Life Groups, Ministry Teams, Elder Board, etc. to start meeting face-to-face again within the framework of the NC guidelines. At that time, we will also begin to explore the possibility of outdoor worship gatherings.

During Phase 3, we expect to begin reopening our campus and we predict that in-person services will restart at some level, though, likely without children's programs. We will likely gather in the Worship Center, SouthPoint and the Ridge according to appropriate social distancing and other precautions to respect crowd size limits.

After Phase 3, we will enter into a season of Praise as we begin a new "normal" when worship, fellowship, ministry events and children's programs can all resume in full force.

### Why did we decide on this slower, phased approach?

First, we have a biblical call to love our neighbor as ourselves. This is a lens that we have used in being careful in our return to large gatherings. Is this a sacrifice? Yes. But we also have the biblical teachings to love others sacrificially (see 1 John as one example of this teaching). At times, this means giving up things we love. Gathering together is important, but we do not cease being Christians if we voluntarily give it up for a time for the benefit of others.

Second, we have a biblical call to submit to governing authorities. We are not experiencing religious persecution. The government has been instituted by God for the good of humanity (Romans 13:1-7; 1 Peter 2:13-17). The governing authorities have asked everyone, not just Christians and churches, to practice physical distancing for the purpose of protecting others. The pastors and elders are still in a time of seeking out and processing data concerning COVID-19 and it's spread. We do not



want to restart too early and risk going back to strict physical distancing.

Third, we desire to evangelize to people around us who need to follow Christ. Our desire is to positively reflect the cause of Christ in the community. We are aware that large group gatherings are considered a primary threat for the spread of COVID-19. Churches, particularly large churches such as ourselves, have a responsibility to use wisdom in reopening. Living out the call to *walk in wisdom toward outsiders* (Colossians 4:5; 1 Thessalonians 4:12) means that reopening wisely is also an evangelistic strategy.

Finally, through our consultations with six medical professionals in our church, we were unanimously advised to take a slow approach to reopening. This is not only an issue of health and the spread of COVID-19, it also takes into consideration our Health Care System readiness. We do not want to unintentionally overwhelm our Health Care facilities or contribute to shortages of health and safety supplies by reopening too quickly. We will continue to seek the counsel of our medical professionals and governmental officials as county and state statistics suggest that the number COVID-19 cases have not yet begun to decrease. We are constantly monitoring the COVID-19 briefings from Gov. Cooper and Secretary Cohen. We encourage you to stay up to date on the information via the [\*\*NC Department of Health and Human Services COVID-19 Website\*\*](#), which has been our preferred source of information.

The apostle Paul says to the believers in Thessalonica, *But since we were torn away from you, brothers, for a short time, in person not in heart, we endeavored the more eagerly and with great desire to see you face to face...* 1 Thessalonians 2:17. It is our great desire to see you face to face. Christ Community Church, we will gather again.

Sincerely,  
Pastor Ken

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**Phased Reopening Chart as of May 13th, 2020**



Dates are projections based on NC guidelines

	<b>PHASE 1</b> BEGINNING MAY 8	<b>PHASE 2</b> AT LEAST 2-3 WEEKS AFTER PHASE 1	<b>PHASE 3</b> AT LEAST 4-6 WEEKS AFTER PHASE 2
<b>NC RESPONSE</b>	<b>SOCIAL DISTANCING</b> MODIFIED STAY-AT-HOME  <b>VULNERABLE POPULATION</b> STAY HOME  <b>MAX GROUPS/CROWDS</b> 10	<b>SOCIAL DISTANCING</b> ENCOURAGED  <b>VULNERABLE POPULATION</b> STAY HOME ENCOURAGED  <b>MAX GROUPS/CROWDS</b> LIMIT INCREASED (REDUCED CAPACITY)	<b>SOCIAL DISTANCING</b> DISCRETIONARY  <b>VULNERABLE POPULATION</b> CAUTIOUS DISTANCING  <b>MAX GROUPS/CROWDS</b> LIMIT INCREASED FURTHER

For more information on NC Guidelines: <https://covid19.ncdhhs.gov/>

	<b>PHASE 1</b> BEGINNING MAY 8	<b>PHASE 2</b> DATE TBD	<b>PHASE 3</b> DATE TBD	<b>PRAISE</b> DATE TBD
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<b>CCC RESPONSE</b>	<b>WORSHIP SERVICES</b> ONLINE ONLY  <b>LIFE GROUPS &amp; MEETINGS</b> OFF-CAMPUS ONLY; GROUPS FOLLOW NC GUIDELINES  <b>CHILDREN</b> ONLINE ONLY  <b>STUDENTS</b> ONLINE ONLY  <b>ON-CAMPUS EVENTS</b> DIGITALLY BASED; FOLLOWING NC GUIDELINES  <b>MISSION TRIPS</b> POSTPONED	<b>WORSHIP SERVICES</b> ONLINE ONLY (EXPLORING OUTDOOR OPTIONS)  <b>LIFE GROUPS &amp; MEETINGS</b> OFF-CAMPUS ONLY; GROUPS FOLLOW NC GUIDELINES  <b>CHILDREN</b> ONLINE ONLY  <b>STUDENTS</b> ONLINE ONLY (EXPLORING OUTDOOR OPTIONS)  <b>ON-CAMPUS EVENTS</b> DIGITALLY BASED; FOLLOWING NC GUIDELINES  <b>MISSION TRIPS</b> POSTPONED	<b>WORSHIP SERVICES</b> RESUME ON-CAMPUS/ONLINE  <b>LIFE GROUPS &amp; MEETINGS</b> ON & OFF-CAMPUS; GROUPS FOLLOW NC GUIDELINES  <b>CHILDREN</b> ONLINE ONLY  <b>STUDENTS</b> ON & OFF-CAMPUS; FOLLOWING NC GUIDELINES  <b>ON-CAMPUS EVENTS</b> RESUME ON-CAMPUS; FOLLOWING NC GUIDELINES  <b>MISSION TRIPS</b> POSTPONED	<b>WORSHIP SERVICES</b> NEW REGULAR SCHEDULE/ONLINE  <b>LIFE GROUPS &amp; MEETINGS</b> NEW REGULAR SCHEDULE  <b>CHILDREN</b> ON-CAMPUS DATE TBD  <b>STUDENTS</b> ON-CAMPUS DATE TBD  <b>ON-CAMPUS EVENTS</b> NEW REGULAR SCHEDULE  <b>MISSION TRIPS</b> AS SCHEDULED WHERE INTERNATIONAL TRAVEL IS ALLOWED
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