



Updated COVID Protocol for Gateway Small Group Leaders

Due to the risks currently associated with being in close proximity to others in a small group for an entire evening, we ask that small group leaders abide by the following recommendations.

- Please limit the size of a Gateway small group to the maximum number of people who can properly social distance 2 metres apart throughout the evening in the room(s) in which a group is meeting.
- As difficult as it will be, please refrain from hugging and handshakes.
- Please ensure that an alcohol-based hand sanitizer is available for all who attend.
- Please ensure that all common-touch surfaces (*such as bathroom door knobs, light switches and all faucets and fixtures*) are cleaned and disinfected before people arrive at a meeting location. Providing paper towels for drying hands in the bathroom is recommended.
- It is recommended that people in attendance use a face mask if it is difficult to remain 2 metres apart from others, or if there are people in attendance who are at a higher risk of infection.
- Please be especially careful around people who are at a higher risk of infection while attending small group meetings. This includes:
 - Individuals who are 60 years of age and older.
 - Individuals living with a weakened immune system due to a chronic health condition, ongoing medical treatment or medications.
- Group meals and any provision of food and beverages in usual ways is still being discouraged, but if you do serve food or beverages, please consider the following:
 - Offer pre-packaged food or drinks in individual portions for people.
 - Avoid using utensils or beverage containers that are touched by multiple people, or have a designated person serve items to the rest of the small group so that everyone isn't touching the same items. The goal should be to minimize how many people are touching the same items.
- If children are present, please make sure that they are monitored, and that they also comply with these guidelines.
- People should be reminded to stay home if they are feeling unwell, even if their symptoms are mild. Common symptoms are listed on the MB Health website at www.gov.mb.ca/covid19/updates/about.html

More information can be found at www.gov.mb.ca/covid19

We are grateful for how the Lord has protected our province as well as our church family, and we pray that He will continue to do so. But as the province re-opens, we want to continue to respect the health guidelines provided by the leaders of our province.