

REFINERY ROUNDTABLE

May 23, 2020



“In-Person” Gathering Plan

There are three guiding thoughts, as we plan to reconvene in person:

1. We've never closed!

We don't feel pressured to "reopen" because we've never been more open than we are right now. We're reaching and engaging more people than ever before: 3-4 times as many. People are joining us for the first time. Barriers have never been lower. . New decisions to accept Christ are happening weekly since the start of “Live at 5” services. We don't go to church...we ARE the church. I can't wait to gather again soon when it's safe to do so...but for now, we are still on mission.

2. We care for our community.

We don't want to gather physically too soon and unnecessarily jeopardize lives or our witness to the city. We are listening attentively to medical professionals and government officials. We are here to SERVE which means we'll make the well-being of our communities a top priority. We don't want to be part of the problem but rather the solution.

3. How we gather matters.

We don't want to gather physically until it can be a great experience for EVERYONE. The idea of having multiple, indoor worship services with restricted numbers of people, keeping our distance from one another, very limited kids ministry abilities, isn't really a great experience for anybody, let alone for our first-time guests.

With these thoughts in mind, we have created a 4 Phase Strategic “Re-Gathering” Plan.

Phase 1:

When we are given the green light to gathering in small groups, I will invite our lead-team, church council and key stakeholders to meet in person for prayer, communion, and planning for the next season of REFINERY. *(Our Lead Team has continued meeting via ZOOM every week)*

Phase 2:

In this phase we will open up the “Live at 5” studio for an in-person audience. Seating will be limited and spaced apart to provide social distancing. In addition it will be by reservation only, since it will be limited to a number that is city and county have approved. *(More specific info to come.)*

Phase 3:

In this phase we will host an outdoor “family reunion” with enough space for social distancing. This will take place on the front lawn of REFINERY Church. Families will sit together with 6' distance between groups.

Phase 4:

When we are advised that social distancing has been reduced to allow indoor meetings of groups of 100 or more, we will renew our regular REFINERY Church gatherings inside the auditorium on Sunday mornings at 10:00 am.

These phases do not have specific dates attached. But, based on current government guidelines, I feel we will move into Phase 1 by the end of May and into Phase 2 during the month of June. As for moving into Phase 3; we are prayerful and hopeful that it will be sooner, rather than later. Phase 4 will be determined based on when the first three occur.