



KNOX COUNTY TENNESSEE

HEALTH DEPARTMENT

Coronavirus – COVID-19 Frequently Asked Questions For Faith-Based Communities

Faith-based communities have an important role in slowing the spread of COVID-19, especially among high-risk populations.

Q: How can I hold faith-based services and meetings and still adhere to Governor Lee's Stay at Home Order?

- **Livestream services or meetings:** Worship services, Bible studies, prayer groups, small groups, and other such activities can take place virtually through Zoom, Google Hangouts or GoTo Meeting. Members can even coordinate with each other to hold phone or video calls (such as FaceTime or Skype). Leaders and members can continue personal and spiritual check-ins via phone or video calls as well.

Q: What if Livestream is not an option?

- **Check out Facebook Premieres (click here) or YouTube Premieres (click here).** Videos can be prerecorded and shared with members to view at a set time. These platforms allow for a "live" feel without it being broadcast live.

Q: How can we stay engaged with our members and offer outreach during this time?

- Consider the needs of members at higher risk of severe illness (click here for CDC guidance) and those who may be more impacted socially or economically. Potential actions include the following:
 - Checking in regularly via phone with persons at higher risk of severe illness to avoid close contact.
 - Share tips, such as some grocery stores having special hours for those at most risk (click here).
 - Referring members impacted socially or economically to call 2-1-1, the non-emergency telephone line for social service information (click here).
- Mailed newsletters, prerecorded messages from leaders, lessons or resources for adults and children sent virtually to help share information and resources in a safe way.
- Share messages of calm, encouragement, and hope during this stressful time.

More information regarding the COVID-19 response can be found at <https://covid.knoxcountyttn.gov/>