

CHURCH & SOCIAL DISTANCING IDEAS

KEEP IT OLD SCHOOL

Just because everyone is going digital doesn't mean your church should. Create a phone tree and ask deacons or volunteers to call everyone with encouraging words. Remind them to observe personal prayer time and stay on track with a scripture reading plan.

GO LIVE FROM YOUR COUCH

Go beyond the pulpit. When leadership is ready, have them present short sermons in real time using Facebook or Instagram live. Doing it from your own couch creates a sense that leadership is observing the same social distancing recommendations as everyone else in the church.

PARKING LOT CHURCH

Grab a classic FM transmitter and invite congregants to the church parking lot to listen to the day's sermon from their vehicles. Allow everyone to dress up and enjoy the ritual of going to church. Check your local ordinances for rules and details.

PUT SERVICE BEFORE SERVICE

Even if you're not having service, your church can still be *of* service. Identify needs in your community and encourage your low-risk members to help deliver carefully handled meals or supplies to their neighbors' doorsteps.

CHURCH IN A BOX

Coordinate a church unlock day so that low-risk admins may enter the church to package and mail out supplies for communion or other sacraments. Members will appreciate the chance to observe meaningful rituals at home. Be sure no more than five people are in the building at once.

CORONAVIRUS PRAYER WALK

Schedule a date and time when members can pray collectively while walking through their respective neighborhoods. Knowing that everyone is praying at once can be powerful.

VIDEO SING-ALONG AND SMALL GROUP STUDY

Use web applications like Zoom or Google Hangouts so that teams or small groups can meet "in person" via video. This way, they may sing together, study together, and most of all, *be* together.

CAR PARADE

Send an email inviting members to decorate their cars and join a church car parade. Set a meet up spot, crank up gospel music and start the caravan. Don't forget to publicize the route so that members at home can be waiting with their own cheerful signs! Be sure to observe social distancing.

TEXT TO GIVE

Passing the plate has never been easier these days. Use mobile apps like Tithe.ly, Easy Tithe or Push Pay to help members to continue their worship through giving.

