



FAQs: COVID-19

How does Messiah define a Community Group?

Community Groups are small groups of approximately six married couples or eight to ten individuals of the same gender that meet regularly. It's a place to be encouraged, equipped, and challenged to grow in our relationship with Jesus.

How do I connect with a Community Group at Messiah?

Group registration is open from August 30- September 13. Groups fill quickly, so don't delay! Register online at MessiahStCharles.org.

Where will groups meet during COVID-19?

Unless otherwise directed by the church, groups should plan on in-person, socially distanced meetings on Messiah's campus. After the first session, some groups may opt to meet at an outside location (e.g., a restaurant or home) where social distance can be maintained. Group leaders are encouraged to allow members to join sessions virtually as needed to avoid missing a gathering.

What will our first meeting (known as Grouplink) look like during COVID-19?

Groups will meet for the first time on Messiah's campus in a socially distant environment in a session called Grouplink. Grouplink is typically a celebration for all groups to meet together. Due to COVID-19, Grouplink will occur at different times for each new group. Some groups might meet outside while others will meet in large meeting spaces. Groups will get to know one another, watch a one-part video study, and make plans for their next sessions.

Who facilitates the Community Group ministry at Messiah?

Community Group leaders are trained volunteers who love creating environments where people can experience authentic community and spiritual growth.

When and how long do groups meet?

Groups meet every other week for 6-8 sessions from September to December 2020. Group sessions are typically 90-120 minutes long.

What will groups study?

Short term groups are encouraged to focus on one of four areas of study: parenting, marriage, finance, and spiritual growth. Group leaders have determined a study plan for their group. Messiah will provide message-based discussion groups for leaders starting Fall 2020.

Can people join a group after Grouplink? Why is Grouplink required?

During Grouplink, introductions are made and expectations are established for group members. To maintain an environment of safety and predictability within the groups, groups should not allow anyone to join after Grouplink. All group members should prioritize meeting for Grouplink.

What if I can't find a group that works for me?

Contact communitygroups@messiahnetwork.org and our team would be happy to help connect you with a group that would best fit your needs.

Is childcare provided?

Childcare is not provided and children are discouraged from attending group sessions. Messiah prioritizes the spiritual growth of parents by offering childcare reimbursement. View the reimbursement form for more details:

<https://messiahnetwork.churchcenter.com/people/forms/11163>

Safety Note: Messiah encourages all group participants to follow safety guidelines and recommendations provided by health officials.