



HOW TO DO HOUSE CHURCH

Virtual Group & Face-to-Face Options

STEP 1) CHOOSE A GROUP & COMMUNICATE

Option 1, Face-to-Face: Some of you are already part of a church group (a Sunday school class, a small group, an activity group, a ministry team) or have a few close church friends who regularly connect. If you and the members of your group are comfortable, you can plan to meet together for House Church in someone's home.

Gatherings should not be larger than 10 members—be prepared to split into several groups if needed. Families with young children are not recommended to gather—little children just don't know how to *not* share germs! See Option 2 instead. Be especially discerning about meeting together if you or someone who lives with you is considered "vulnerable" at this time.

As a group, communicate over the next few days (make some phone calls, send a group email, do what you have to do!) to decide who will meet, where, and when. We recommend *not* sharing food during these gatherings to be safe.

Option 2, Virtual Group: If you feel more comfortable playing it safe staying home, there are still ways to connect and do "House Church." With the content we provide to guide your worship time (see step 3 below), you can first watch the video message and do worship on your own or as family, then **reach out to someone else for the prayer and discussion time.** If your technology is limited to phone calls, choose someone in advance to call and work through the prayer and discussion guide provided. If you have a smart phone, here are some other options: use Zoom ([Click Here](#)) or Facebook Messenger ([Click Here](#)) to setup a video chat with a small group. Pick your group in advance and pick a time to connect with the prayer and discussion guide after your own personal engagement with the video message and worship component of our House Church guide.

STEP 2) PREPARE A SPACE

Option 1, Face-to-Face: If you are considering hosting a small gathering of 10 people or less, it is essential that you **adequately prepare your space and use these precautions while meeting:**

- Clean and sanitize shared spaces/frequently touched objects before **and** after your gathering (door knobs, shared bathroom, table and countertop, all applicable spaces)

- You need to have a space open enough and with enough seats to help individuals maintain a distance of about 6 feet (this is the CDC recommendation at this time). So, for example, a living room where members can sit on a large sofa with distance between and chairs spread out in an open circle—or if weather is good, an outdoor space with the same specifications.
- Have group members wash hands when they first enter your space and before they leave.
- Refrain from any contact during the gathering.

Option 2, Virtual Group: If you are staying in your own home and connecting with people virtually (phone call or video call), preparing your space just looks like having a comfortable space, free from distractions, with the technology you need, for you/your family to engage the House Church Worship content (see step 3 below). **Knowing this will be more than just one Sunday, consider being creative and having fun converting a part of your house to be the “sanctuary” or prayer room during this season!**

STEP 3) PREPARE A TIME

Every week by Friday afternoon, we'll share a **House Church Worship Guide** including these components:

- **Message:** a 15-20 minute video message from Pastor David (text form will be included for those who can't watch the video)
- **Kids:** a video message for ActivateKidz will be available each week, you can do this lesson with your kids during House Church or any time
- **Worship:** a guide to help you worship with options to suit your setting (music options, spoken/written options)
- **Scripture:** a scripture reading for your family/group to read
- **Prayer:** a guide to help you and your family/group pray together
- **Discussion:** a guide to help you help you and your family/group discuss the message and Scripture
- **Giving:** a guide for how you can support Trinity's ministries during this season
- **Other Ideas:** for how you can connect and serve this week

You will be able to access this material from our church website as a PDF download: <https://tumc-danville-pa.faithlifesites.com/virtual-church>

We will also share this file through our email chain.

STEP 4) SHARE!

Post pictures of your House Church worship! Share your feedback, ideas, and questions with us anytime. Trinity.Secretary@verizon.net