

## Phase 4 – Arapahoe County Safer at Home Level Orange

### Indoor Worship and Small Group Gatherings

These guidelines go into effect for Community of Grace as of January 5, 2021.

The elders' goals are to remain focused on the mission and vision of Community of Grace by Loving God, Loving Others; being the best church for our community; and aligning with the vision team to enhance individual and corporate prayer. This following plan is our best understanding to-date (January 4, 2021) and could be adjusted when circumstances and guidelines change. Thank you for understanding.

(As of December 7, 2020, Houses of Worship are now considered essential organizations per Governor Polis. The directions from CO and Arapahoe County removes the capacity seating restrictions for Houses of Worship as long as we follow social distancing guidelines, wear face masks, cleaning requirements, etc.)

- Worship in-person at the Community of Grace buildings
  - We will hold services at 10:00 am.
  - Staff, elders, and volunteers will monitor the sanctuary seating to ensure we maintain our three chair spacing for social distancing purposes. If we reach capacity that will not allow proper seating distance, we will stop admitting guests and direct them to our online service.
  - We ask that people arrive no sooner than 15 minutes prior to service.
  - All attendees must wear a mask (except speaker/praise team singers while on stage) and must maintain 6-foot social distancing while walking to, entering/exiting and staying in the church building.
  - While sitting in the sanctuary, leave three chairs empty between family groups. This will ensure the 6' minimum social distancing is being met.
  - Children and youth are welcome to attend; they must remain with their "party" the entire service.
    - Children who are 3 years and older should be encouraged to wear a mask and 10 and older are required to wear a mask.
  - We have opted to not screen or ask about symptoms; we are putting confidence in our congregation they will do the right thing to self-monitor symptoms.
  - Anyone with fever (greater than or equal to 100°), cough, shortness of breath, congested/runny nose, head or body aches, fatigue, sore throat, nausea, vomiting, diarrhea, or loss of taste/smell—even if symptoms are thought to be allergies—should not attend gathering in person.
  - Anyone who has come in close contact with someone who has tested positive for COVID or has been experiencing symptoms should remain at home generally for at least 10 days after symptom onset.
  - Those at high risk are strongly encouraged to remain at home.
  - Worship center greeters/ushers will be assisting in seating families/parties.
    - A "party" is members of a household who live together.
  - Everyone is welcome to greet each other in the sanctuary, but we ask you continue to maintain 6-foot social distancing.

- For those not comfortable attending in person (indoor)
    - We will stream our 10:00 am service and it will be posted on our website.
  - Children's church will be held during the 10:00 am service and is using a registration system to ensure we are within Arapahoe county room requirements. Parents can read the guidelines and can sign up their children at <http://cogaurora.org/ministries/childrens-ministry>.
  - Our youth ministry will continue to worship with the adults on Sunday at this time and will meet on Wednesday evenings following small group ministry guidelines.
  - Requests from outside organizations, youth, and El Shalom should align with COG's current phase.
- Small/LifeGroups/Ministries
 

(LifeGroups, small groups, and ministries are encouraged to meet at Community of Grace instead of at individual homes. This provides ample space for activities to be conducted while following social distancing requirements and wearing face masks. We ask that you reach out to the office at [anita@communityofgrace.com](mailto:anita@communityofgrace.com) to coordinate availability and key use.)

    - Meeting in person as defined by guidelines below:
      - Maintain 6-foot social distancing at all times.
      - Indoor gatherings at someone's private residence are done with 10 or fewer individuals from no more than 2 households.
      - Outdoor activities are done with up to 175 people as long as space allows for everyone to safely maintain 6-foot social distancing.
      - Ministries must contact the church office for scheduling and approval to use the indoor church facilities. Numbers of participants will be determined case-by-case depending on the room to be used. Cleaning, masks and social distancing will be required.
      - When meeting indoors, members are required to wear cloth or non-surgical grade masks at all times to prevent the spread of COVID-19. When meeting outdoors, masks are recommended but not required when consistently maintaining 6-foot social distancing.
        - Those who cannot or do not want to wear a mask indoors are encouraged to participate in small groups or LifeGroup online.
      - Continue virtual option for LifeGroups to provide alternatives for those who wish to attend but cannot due to their situation.
      - Practice frequent hand washing or hand sanitization (sanitizer with at least 60% alcohol).
      - No food or beverages should be shared.
      - Anyone with fever (greater than or equal to 100°), cough, shortness of breath, congested/runny nose, head or body aches, fatigue, sore throat, nausea, vomiting, diarrhea, or loss of taste/smell -- even if symptoms are thought to be allergies -- should not attend gathering in person.
      - Anyone who has come in close contact with someone who has tested positive for COVID or has been experiencing symptoms should remain at home generally for at least 10 days after symptom onset.
      - Those at high risk are strongly encouraged to remain at home.