

# Sunday gatherings from 6<sup>th</sup> Sept

I recently sent out a survey to gauge whether our church family wanted to start gathering physically on Sundays again. The 53 results we received have shown that 72.7% want to come back, 14.5% are unsure and 12.7% won't be back yet. Many of the unsure responses were asking whether it will be Covid Secure and about children's work.



I am delighted to announce that we will be restarting Sunday gatherings from Sun 6<sup>th</sup> Sept in a **new venue and at a new time**. Sunday, 6<sup>th</sup> September is The Gateway's 13<sup>th</sup> anniversary and a fitting day to relaunch gatherings. We will be meeting at Gaywood Community Centre, Gayton Road, Kings Lynn, PE30 4EE at 10:45am for one hour (**not to be confused with** Gaywood Church Rooms next to St Faiths).

We will continue to broadcast the services on YouTube for those who cannot attend.

There are three Biblical considerations for planning to meet again in the continuing global pandemic

1. Heb 10:25 where we are encouraged to continue meeting and Acts 2:42 to stay devoted to fellowship.
2. Rom 13:1 where we are exhorted to obey our governing authorities – who have made tough decisions to try and flatten the curve of virus transmission and keep us safe.
3. Romans 14 where we are told in essence to be kind and considerate towards weaker brothers.

We are taking cautious, slow steps back to Sundays in line with government guidance. We have worked hard to make our gatherings Covid-safe. Numbers will be limited to 24 household/support bubbles (a support bubble is where a single person or single parent family are attached to another household). Everyone will therefore have to book before each Sunday on the website, app or text to Sarah Vonk on 07592581977 by Thursday each week. To maximise safe numbers please consider creating a support bubble to book if you normally attend on your own.

**Do not come** if you have a new continuous cough, high temperature or loss of taste or smell – if so follow the [current guidance rigidly](#). Over 70s and those with underlying medical conditions are advised not to come and to continue watching online.

Here are the measures that enable us to gather in a Covid-safe manner

- Pre-booking and attendance or track or trace details taken. Please pre-book and arrive between 10:30-10:45am and stay 1m+ until seated.
- Seating is in household bubble blocks of chairs at 2m distance between the bubbles.
- Face coverings must be worn in the venue.
- Hand sanitise on the way in.
- Keep socially distanced and stay in your chairs as much as possible.
- Bring your own bread for communion.
- After the service, please exit the building from the fire exit and socialise in a socially distanced way outside if you wish.
- Bring water, if required, as there will be no refreshments following the service.

Our Sunday gatherings will be slightly different in nature as there is currently no congregational singing allowed. To start off with there will be no kids work, but the services will be family friendly, short and some blocks of chairs will have tables and children's activity sheets – bring your own pens/pencils.

Church finances have been breaking even during lockdown, although we will now be paying hall hire again. If you normally gave in the buckets you will be able to start again! However, in line with government guidance, [online giving](#) is preferred as it removes cash handling.

The move of venue means we need to buy a new laptop, video projector and screen. That will be about £1,000 – if you would like to contribute to that, then we'd more than welcome donations!

I'm looking forward to getting back together on Sunday 6<sup>th</sup> at 10.30 for 10.45 start, and hope to see many of you there!

Every blessing

Andy