

Our Response to COVID-19

The Village Organic Church Network
Executive Leadership Team
March 12, 2020

As communities try to prevent the spread of COVID-19, we have been discussing ways in which we may need to alter our typical interactions and meetings. We do not want to give in to fear and paranoia (Joshua 1:9), yet we also want to be wise and responsible. Our current risk level appears to be low, but we are also operating in the blind on many levels. In fact, this is a particularly uncertain time since many have been traveling all over the country for Spring Break. As people return from a wide variety of locations, the risk factors increase. As a result, the Executive Leadership Team (ELT) is taking the following actions network-wide:

1. For today, Thursday March 12th, each House Church (HC) will make their own decision about whether or not to meet in person.
2. After today, all larger group meetings will be moved online using Zoom software. Your HC leadership will get you the necessary information to enable you to remote-in to these meetings.
To clarify, after March 12th, the following meetings will be online until further notice:

- House Church
- Central Teaching
- Leadership Training Class
- Cell Group

We sincerely hope and pray that these will be short-term adjustments, and that we can return to normal face-to-face meetings soon. Until then, we think the above approach allows us to still interact and learn together, yet also provides the ability to do our part to counter the spread of the virus.

In addition to the above decisions, we also offer the following advice:

1. Individual meetings of all types (discipleship, study, counsel, etc.) are obviously up to the individuals involved. It seems prudent to avoid close physical contact - many meetings have instituted no hand-shake policies. We recommend keeping physical contact to a minimum.
2. If you are feeling sick, please do not meet face-to-face for even individual meetings.
3. If you have traveled to areas with known cases of COVID-19 you might also consider keeping your distance and connecting remotely.
4. Review CDC recommendations [here](#).

Thanks for doing your part to limit the spread of the virus and we will keep you updated as the situation changes. Please direct any questions or comments to villageocn@gmail.com.

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