

Resources for Responding to COVID-19 Outbreak



The Coronavirus pandemic has impacted nearly every aspect of daily life for people across the globe. Phrases like "social distancing" have become commonplace. In the U.S., most schools and universities have closed; many businesses have temporarily shut their doors or will open for limited hours; and the CDC has recommended large gatherings should not take place at this time.

Local churches are also attempting to respond in appropriate ways, but many congregations have questions. The resources included below can assist your church as it seeks answers about this new reality.

Check back frequently for updates to this page.

[View All COVID-19 Resources](#)

RE-LAUNCH

RE-LAUNCH RESOURCE ADDS SECOND SESSION

Posted: July 13, 2020 | 1 p.m. CDT

Paul Nixon and Rachel Gilmore interviewed five church planters in RE-Launch Part 2, asking them how they would have approached their own public worship launch for their new church, had it been in 2020. These seasoned church planters now consider the pandemic of systemic racism as critical as the COVID-19 crisis in terms of ministry planning this year.

[Read more on UMCDiscipleship.org](https://umcdiscipleship.org)



WORSHIP MATTERS EPISODE 21 - TIME TO REOPEN?

Posted: July 13, 2020 | 11:38 a.m. CDT

Time to reopen? This week's podcast is a conversation between Dr. Diana Sanchez-Bushong, Director of Music Ministries, and Dr. Derek Weber, Director of Preaching Ministries, around all the issues of reopening churches.

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VBS PROGRAMS ADDRESS RACISM, PANDEMIC IN VIRTUAL SETTING

Posted: June 29, 2020 | 1:51 p.m. CDT

This summer, every church is having conversations about how to do summer VBS within its context. Included here are two good examples of how churches are responding to both the COVID-19 pandemic and racism.

[Read more on UMCDiscipleship.org](https://umcdiscipleship.org)

MUSIC AND SINGING IN CHURCH: RECOMMENDATIONS ACCORDING TO PHASED REOPENINGS

Posted: June 12, 2020 | 10:21 a.m. CDT

During this “singing quarantine,” it is important to think about and remind ourselves why we sing. Included are some key questions we should all be asking before moving on to the “how” or “what” questions.

[Read more on UMCDiscipleship.org](https://umcdiscipleship.org)



ON MISSION DURING THE STORM

Posted: June 1, 2020 | 1:50 p.m. CDT

So much has changed in the last several weeks, but the one thing that hasn't changed is our common mission. Our church and team – laity and clergy – have been formed around the

idea that people who feel disconnected from God and the church can find hope, healing, and wholeness in Jesus.

[Read more on UMCDiscipleship.org](http://UMCDiscipleship.org)



GLOBAL CONVERSATIONS ON DISCIPLESHIP

DISCIPLESHIP AND CHURCH LIFE IN THE TIME OF COVID-19: RESPONSES FROM AFRICA, EUROPE, AND THE PHILIPPINES

Posted: May 14, 2020 | 2:19 p.m. CDT

Mighty Rasing recently connected with several leaders from the Central Conferences to ask about the ways that they are dealing with the impact of this pandemic.

[Read more on UMCDiscipleship.org](http://UMCDiscipleship.org)

USING SPIRITUAL GIFTS ASSESSMENT TOOLS TO GET READY FOR A NEW WAY OF DOING CHURCH

Posted: May 13, 2020 | 2:25 p.m. CDT

While people are sheltering at home, it's a great time to have them assess their spiritual gifts.

[Read more on UMCDiscipleship.org](https://UMCDiscipleship.org)

2020 CHRISTIAN HOME MONTH

Posted: May 4, 2020 | 4:41 p.m. CDT

This resource is designed to help local congregations develop and strengthen faith in the home and celebrate Christian Home Month.

[Read more on UMCDiscipleship.org](https://UMCDiscipleship.org)



NEW FACES IN VIRTUAL SPACES

Posted: April 29, 2020 | 1:46 p.m. CDT

How can we find joy during this time and connect with those who are in our faith community or are longing for one? Read how church planters are finding and/or creating new online third spaces.

[Read more on UMCDiscipleship.org](https://UMCDiscipleship.org)

#HOPE4TOMORROW: YOUTH WORSHIP PLANNING MATERIALS DURING COVID-19 IN 2020

Posted: April 29, 2020 | 9:59 a.m. CDT

Many churches have traditionally offered a “Youth Sunday” or “Youth-Led Worship” in the spring. It is our hope that local church, annual conference, and general church leaders in youth ministry will advocate for young voices in online worship.

[Read more on UMCYoungPeople.org](#)

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MARCH 31, 2020

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On March 25, 2020, the U.S. Senate unanimously passed (96-0) the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act (CARES Act), commonly known a . . .