

# The Table ReGathering Plan

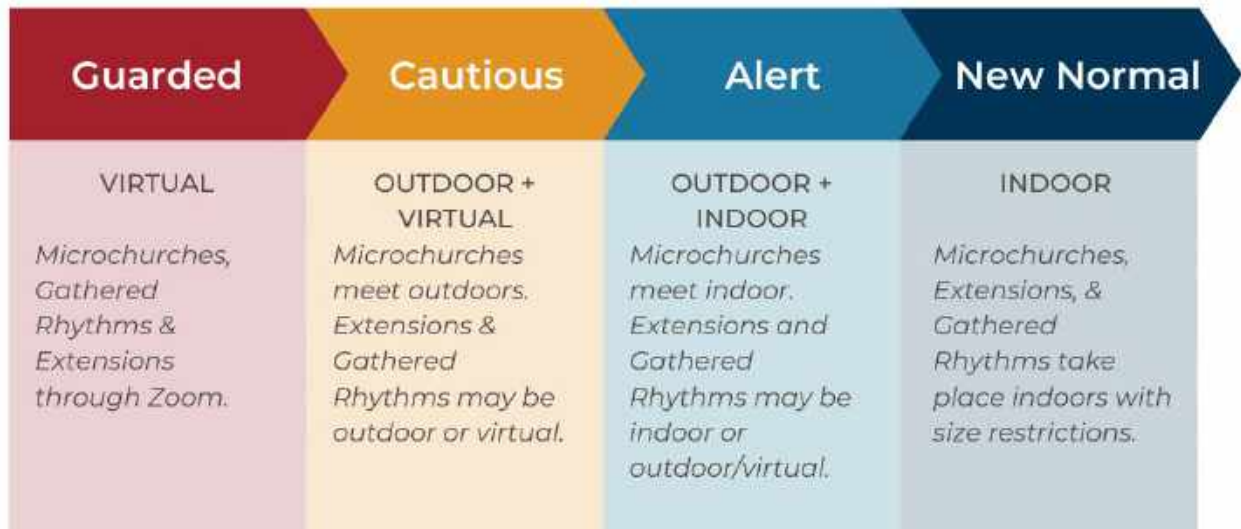
JULY 8, 2020

## INTRODUCTION

The COVID-19 Pandemic has confronted each of us with painful challenges and complex problems. Much remains unclear as we witness lower rates of transmission here in Massachusetts and simultaneously a resurgence in many parts of the country. As we at The Table navigate this unique season, our hope is to do so as followers of Jesus in the way of love; love for our elders and the immunocompromised who are most at risk for succumbing to the virus and love for those in our community who are struggling with heightened challenges under conditions of isolation. We recognize and take seriously the health risks posed by COVID-19 and also want to be attentive to the spiritual, mental, emotional, and relational impacts of the virus as we consider a plan for ReGathering.<sup>1</sup>

With prayer, feedback, from our community, and in consultation with experts, we've put together the following four-phase process for ReGathering as a church community.

## REGATHERING PROCESS



<sup>1</sup> This is a ReGathering not a ReOpening Plan because the church was never closed! :)



## BENCHMARKS

For each phase of the process, we'll use the following benchmarks to help guide our next steps. We'll remain in each phase for *at least* one month. As a general rule, it's our hope to lag somewhat behind what is allowable by the State and to remain as inclusive as possible. The benchmarks indicated below will inform our movement in both directions; if cases continue to decline, we'll move to more in-person Gatherings. If case counts rise, the benchmarks indicated below will inform the decision to retreat to a more restrictive mode of gathering..

### Benchmarks for moving to CAUTIOUS

- Positive Test Rate on a downward trend over the most recent 14 days<sup>2</sup>
- 30 days where the [3-day-average of new COVID19 cases](#) in Boston  $\leq 50$

### Benchmarks for moving to ALERT

- The Governor rescinding the [COVID19 Order](#) restricting indoor gatherings to < 10; New guidelines should allow for 20+ people to gather indoors.
- COVID19 Positive Test Rate under 5% for one month
- [10-day average of new COVID19 cases](#) in Boston is  $\leq 25$

### Benchmarks for moving to NEW NORMAL

- State Gathering limits of > 50
- COVID19 Positive Test Rate under 2% for one month
- [10-Day Average of new COVID19 cases](#) in Boston is < 15

## COMMUNITY EXPECTATIONS

**Handwashing:** consistent, thorough hand washing is encouraged through all phases. Sanitizer will be provided on-site at Gatherings.

**Stay home** if you are exhibiting *any* illness symptoms (including those associated with COVID19), have had recent contact with individuals infected with COVID19.

**Travel:** those travelling out of state<sup>3</sup> by public transit (plane, bus, train) are asked to quarantine for 14 days or gain a negative test result before rejoining in-person Gatherings.

**Face-Covering:** required throughout all phases; until public health guidance changes; Mass enters Phase 4: New Normal.

**Childcare:** optional beginning with Alert

**Communal Plate:** optional beginning with Alert; servers will wear gloves and take additional precautions.

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<sup>2</sup> Table volunteers are [tracking new cases of COVID-19](#) in Boston based on data made available through the [City of Boston dashboard](#).

<sup>3</sup> Exception for states [exempted by the Governor's Order](#); as of July 1 this included travelers from Rhode Island, Connecticut, Vermont, New Hampshire, Maine, New York, and New Jersey. We recommend obtaining a negative molecular test 3-5 days after potential exposure. A list of local testing sites is [available here](#) and results are commonly available within 48hrs.