

Key Data for Covid-19 Response Based on Church Size

Below is summary data for several different questions from the survey based on the responses prior to the webinar. While there is more raw data, these tables represent the most significant changes. In all tables, the data is broken out by congregation size, less than 100, 100-350, and over 350.

Cells highlighted green generally reflect a positive change or trend in the data. Cells highlighted yellow reflect areas of interest and further consideration.

There are many factors influencing differences which appear between church sizes such as available resources, impact of COVID-19 on volunteers, and other logistical problems. The data, in no way, is meant to reflect poorly on a category of churches or to overly inflate the value and work of another category. This data is purely descriptive.

The data is organized according to the five areas addressed in the webinar held on October 13, 2020. Much of this data was discussed in the webinar and/or is included in the Executive Summary to which this document is attached. In addition, a summary of aggregate answers will be provided on the website of NationsUniversity.

Leadership

		Leadership Meetings						
	N	Continued meeting regularly in person	Continued meeting regularly via video conferencing	Met as needed in person	Met as needed via video conferencing	Met as needed with only those needed to make decisions	Did not meet, discussed information via emails, texts, or phone calls	Did not meet during the pandemic
<100	44	9	8	11	4	10	4	1
100-350	26	4	9	4	2	8	2	1
>350	21	4	8	4	4	3	3	0
Key Points:								
Larger churches tend to meet more regularly. Smaller churches tend to meet more as needed, though they prefer to meet in person.								

		Shepherding							
	N	Home visits with masks and social distancing	Home visits without masks or social distancing	Video conference visits	Phone calls to members	Sent texts to members	Emails to members	Letter or Cards to Members	No contact during the pandemic
<100	44	18	2	3	26	21	19	15	0
100-350	26	9	2	4	18	16	13	9	1
>350	21	4	0	7	13	11	8	5	0
Key Points:									
Small and medium churches were more active in making home visits than large churches, 45%, 42%, and 19% respectively.									

Worship

Size	N	Livestream Worship Services				New Start	Of New Starts, Continue?
		Category	N	YES During	YES Cont.		
<100	44	YES Before	6	4	4	39%	73%
		NO Before	38	15	11		
100-350	26	YES Before	3	2	3	61%	71%
		NO Before	23	14	10		
>350	21	YES Before	10	9	9	55%	83%
		NO Before	11	6	5		
TOTALS	91	YES Before	19	15	16	49%	74%
		NO Before	72	35	26		
		% Using:	21%	55%	46%		
Key Points:							
Of churches that did not Livestream worship before the pandemic, 49% have started doing so.							
Of the 49% who began streamings, 74% say they plan to continue.							
Churches between 100 & 350 had the highest percentage of new starts at 61%.							
Churches over 350 have the highest number of planned continuations of 83%. They also experienced 55% new starts.							
Overall, only 21% of churches in survey were using livestream before pandemic. Now 46% plan to continue the service.							

Size	N	Recorded Worship Services				New Start	Of New Starts, Continue?
		Category	N	YES During	YES Cont.		
<100	44	YES Before	8	7	7	42%	71%
		NO Before	33	14	10		
100-350	26	YES Before	3	2	3	61%	71%
		NO Before	23	14	10		
>350	21	YES Before	9	8	8	58%	86%
		NO Before	12	7	6		
TOTALS	91	YES Before	20	17	18	49%	74%
		NO Before	71	35	26		
		% Using:	22%	57%	48%		
Key Points:							
Almost every church that began livestreaming is making their recorded service available later.							
The number of churches providing record/live services online has increased by over 150%							

Size	Provided Singers to Support Recorded Services	Provided Communion Devotional
<100	22%	45%
100-350	67%	61%
>350	71%	80%
Key Points:		
Most churches, when they felt they had members capable and willing, offered more than just the lesson.		
In many cases, smaller churches did not have the human resources to provide singers.		

BROADCAST (LIVE OR RECORDED)	N	Facebook		YouTube		Instagram		WhatsApp		ChMS		Website	
		Before	During	Before	During	Before	During	Before	During	Before	During	Before	During
<100	44	7	21	2	8	0	1	6	8	0	1	5	6
100-350	26	5	14	4	8	0	1	2	2	3	3	7	5
>350	21	4	10	7	11	0	2	0	1	4	6	11	12
Key Point: Website broadcast was not the preferred method. Churches created Facebook pages and YouTube Channels.													

Digital Resources for Worship

Below are a list of livestreaming services and audio-video editing software recommended by churches who responded to the survey. An assessment of these recommendations was not conducted.

Video Streaming Services

vMix	vmix.com
CameraFi	camerafi.com
Open Broadcaster	obsproject.com
Subsplash	subsplash.com
Switcher Studio	switcherstudio.com
Faithlife	faithlife.com
Wirecast	teletream.net
Streamyard	streamyard.com

Audio-Video Editing Software

Worship Extreme	worshipextreme.com
CameraFi	camerafi.com
Kinemaster	kinemaster.com
Adobe Premier	adobe.com

Education & Communication

COMMUNICATION:	N	Facebook		Twitter		Instagram		WhatsApp		ChMS		Website		Email	
		Before	During	Before	During	Before	During	Before	During	Before	During	Before	During	Before	During
<100	44	16	23	4	4	2	3	7	9	0	0	12	11	16	22
100-350	26	14	16	4	4	4	5	3	2	4	3	11	9	10	8
>350	21	13	13	4	5	2	5	3	3	8	9	13	14	11	12
Key Point: Only significant change was among smaller congregations that substantially improved their digital communications.															

		Live, Online Classes						Of New Starts,
Size	N	Category	N	YES During	YES Cont.		New Start	Continue?
<100	44	YES Before	3	2	2			
		NO Before	41	16	10		39%	63%
100-350	26	YES Before	4	0	2			
		NO Before	22	13	10		59%	77%
>350	21	YES Before	3	2	2			
		NO Before	18	11	7		61%	64%
TOTALS	91	YES Before	10	4	6			
		NO Before	81	40	27		48%	68%
		% Using:	11%	48%	36%			

		Recorded Classes						Of New Starts,
Size	N	Category	N	YES During	YES Cont.		New Start	Continue?
<100	44	YES Before	7	5	5			
		NO Before	37	9	7		24%	78%
100-350	26	YES Before	2	0	1			
		NO Before	24	13	1		54%	8%
>350	21	YES Before	6	5	5			
		NO Before	15	8	4		53%	50%
TOTALS	91	YES Before	15	10	11			
		NO Before	76	30	12		39%	40%
		% Using:	16%	44%	25%			

		Recorded Videoconference Classes						Of New Starts,
Size	N	Category	N	YES During	YES Cont.		New Start	Continue?
<100	44	YES Before	2	2	2			
		NO Before	42	8	7		19%	88%
100-350	26	YES Before	2	0	1			
		NO Before	24	6	5		25%	83%
>350	21	YES Before	1	1	1			
		NO Before	20	11	6		55%	55%
TOTALS	91	YES Before	5	3	4			
		NO Before	86	25	18		28%	72%
		% Using:	10%	31%	24%			
Recorded formats are significantly less attractive to churches than live formats.								
The issue for this last method could be privacy concerns.								

Youth & Children

Youth & Children Meeting							
	N	Indoor		Outdoor		Did Not Meet	
		<10	>10	<10	>10	N	%
<100	44	8	3	2	5	18	41%
100-350	26	3	2	3	4	11	42%
>350	21	4	3	5	6	7	33%
Key Point:							
Approximately 60% of churches found a way for youth to meet.							
Larger churches, based on interviews, were able to divide groups up and meet more often.							
Smaller churches, with assumedly less youth, were most likely to meet indoors.							

Online Classes for Youth/Children--All Methods*						
Size	N	Before	During	After	Cont%	Zoom
<100	44	9	13	18	138%	46%
100-350	26	5	10	12	120%	50%
>350	21	2	21	6	29%	33%
Key Points						
*So few churches were using online classes that all methods were aggregated.						
Of all methods, Zoom classes represented the largest percentage of use.						
Very few large churches used online classes with youth/children.						
Small and Medium churches are 4 times more likely to continue after virus.						

Use of Social Media for Teaching Youth/Children				
Size	N	Before	During	Continue
<100	44	12	19	23
100-350	26	6	13	16
>350	21	0	19	6
TOTALS	91	18	51	45
	% Using:	20%	56%	49%
Key Points:				
All churches saw a significant increase in the use of social media.				
Smaller churches were already making good use of social media				
Larger churches have other communication systems in place.				
<i>Data aggregated as Med and Lg churches had insufficient numbers.</i>				

Use of Instructional Aids with Online Classes				
	N	Online Material	Take Home	Online Interaction
<100	44	6	9	6
100-350	26	6	5	3
>350	21	4	8	7
Percent-all sizes:		18%	24%	18%
Key Points:				
Less than 20% of churches optimized their online teaching.				
24% provided take-home materials.				
Little variation based on congregation size.				

Evangelism

EVANGELISM		Social Media				New Start		Online Bible Studies			New Start	
	N	Category	N	YES During	YES Cont.	New Start	Cont?	N	YES During	YES Cont.	New Start	Cont?
<100	44	YES Before	14	14	14			6	6	6		
		NO Before	30	4	4	13%	100%	38	2	3	5%	150%
100-350	26	YES Before	9	8	9			6	6	6		
		NO Before	17	4	6	24%	150%	20	0	2	0%	n/a
>350	21	YES Before	8	7	7			4	4	4		
		NO Before	13	1	1	8%	100%	17	1	2	6%	200%
TOTALS	91	YES Before	31	31	30			16	16	16		
		NO Before	60	9	11			75	3	7		
		% Using	34%	44%	45%			18%	21%	25%		
Key Point:		While online Bible studies saw a small increase, there was a larger increase in the use of social media.										
		Medium size churches led the way in this increase with 24% launching new social media campaigns.										
		No other areas of evangelism showed significant change.										

		Evangelism Follow-Up								
	N	In person in homes (with social distancing and masks)	In person at public places (with social distancing and masks)	In person at the church bldg (with social distancing and masks)	Face-to-Face meetings using video conferencing	Phone Calls	Referral to online Bible study	Emailed or mailed Bible study		
<100	44	16	8	14	12	13	5	10		
100-350	26	9	5	7	8	10	4	5		
>350	21	4	3	7	5	7	3	4		
Key Points:		As with shepherding, small and medium churches continued to use in-person options more often than large churches.								
		Anecdotally, interviews suggest small and medium churches had greater success in evangelistic endeavors.								

Regarding Benevolence, there was no notable change. Churches who had been doing benevolence continued to do so. Only a few, mostly small churches, began providing benevolence. Of the small churches that began providing benevolence, it was almost entirely the setting up of a food pantry.