# SAMPLE:
# PANDEMIC RESPONSE POLICY

*Please review this sample of a pandemic response policy as you develop a plan that is contextualized to your church.*

## WHY IS THIS POLICY IMPORTANT?

While our church hopes that emergency response plans will never be used, the truth remains that it is better to have a policy in place than to respond poorly should an emergency arise. This pandemic response policy has been developed by a task force of church staff, safety personnel, and medical personnel to ensure we are prepared to respond if a pandemic impacts our church and local community.

## PANDEMIC RESPONSE PLAN

The pandemic response task force will monitor pandemic conditions by utilizing resources from local and state health departments, the CDC, and FEMA. Should pandeminc conditions be present in our community and average Sunday attendance suddenly drop by 25%, phase 1 of the plan will be implemented. At this time, the church will communicate with staff, ministry leaders, church members, and non-church groups that use the facility to ensure all are aware of details regarding phase 2 and phase 3, should those phases become necessary to implement. During phase 1, increased cleanings of the facility will take place.

If average attendance drops by 40%, phase 2 will implemented. During this phase, normal Sunday operations adjust to ensure minimal hand-to-hand contact between people occurs, such as propping open doors, skipping greeting time during services, and placing offering buckets or Lord's Supper elements in central locations instead of passing from person-to-person. Additional church activities, such as weeknight Bible studies, will be canceled; facility access by non-church groups will be restricted; and church staff will work remotely.

If average attendance drops by 50-60%, phase 3 will be implemented. At this time, services will be canceled and a livestream or online video option will be offered. A deep cleaning of the facility will also occur.

Once local conditions begin to improve, the pandemic response task force will make and communicate decisions and a timeline to return to normal operations.