# Connecting with **Your Community During the Pandemic**

Life has slowed. Our contact with one another has been limited. Our daily routines have been disrupted. In this season we can choose to focus our attention on our limitations, restrictions, and disruptions; or we can choose instead to embrace the opportunities and follow Jesus moment by moment.

Many things that have always been true are now plainly evident – the church is not a building, we are not self-sufficient, God is in control, He alone is our hope.

Slowing down has always been the most effective way to connect with God (Psalm 46:10). And the Church tends to be at her best when we're forced to innovate.

### **Stream OHC Services**

Weekend Worship Services are online: Saturdays, 5:00 PM Sundays, 9:30 AM and 11:30 AM Watch livestream on:







FACEBOOK





Roku

# **Leading a Socially Distant Group**

### STAY IN COMMUNICATION EARLY AND OFTEN

Let your group know that you're there for them. If they have questions, concerns, or fears, this is the time to pick up the phone or talk online.

#### **Ask Meaningful Questions**

- How are you doing?
- · What are your daily rhythms in the midst of this?
- What passages of Scripture are you reading/praying during these days?
- Do you have any immediate needs?
- How can I pray for you specifically during all of this?

#### SET UP VIRTUAL GROUP MEETINGS

- Choose a Platform | See the chart on the last page for suggestions.
- Set a Time | Choose a time to meet together online.
- Invite Your Group | Send a link for your meeting to the members of your group.
- Read or Watch Prior to Group Time | Ask group members to read the passages or watch the videos before your meeting.
- Structure the Group Time | Following a schedule will help the group stay on topic.
- Pray Together | Don't forget to pray for one another. Hearing people intercede on our behalf is a great way for us to encourage one another.

#### **RESOURCES TO USE**

**Sermon Series Study Tools** | Visit <u>oakhillschurch.com/studytools</u> for a variety of study tools that support engagement with OHC's current sermon series.

**Spiritual Resources** | Visit <u>oakhillschurch.com/spiritualresources</u> for online resource recommendations specific to hope during the COVID-19 pandemic.

**Group Resources** | Visit <u>oakhillschurch.com/community/resources</u> for small group study recommendations.

**RightNow Media** | Use this streaming library of Bible study videos and digital resources for individuals, families and groups! Click <u>HERE</u> to register for your free account.

## **Virtual Group Meet Etiquette**

**Sound** | Be aware of where you are setting up the call in your home (are you around loud dogs, dishwashers, etc.). Everyone should know how to Mute and Unmute.

**Video** | Think about the angle. Are we seeing up your nose? What is behind you?

**Lighting** | We want to see you. Is there light behind you? Is there a window in front of you?

### The Latest from OHC

For the most current info related to ministry at Oak Hills Church during the pandemic visit <u>oakhillschurch.com</u>. On our website you'll find easy ways to get help, give help, get connected, worship online, request prayer, and give to the work of Oak Hills Church. You'll also find quick links to resources for children, students, and adults.

Please update your contact information. We don't know what the days ahead will bring, but we know we can't help you if we can't contact you. Login through our website and update your contact information. Click on "Login" in the upper right-hand corner.

# Stay in Touch with the OHC Groups Team

We will be reaching out to all our group leaders, but don't wait for us. If you have a question, or need anything at all, don't hesitate to contact us directly.

Matt Moore | mattm@oakhillschurch.com

Jeremy Jennings | jeremyj@oakhillschurch.com

Don Makalous | donm@oakhillschurch.com

We're all feeling the effect of social distancing. But know this: Your greatest friend and your sweetest companion is near to you right now. We are praying that we will all emerge from this pandemic closer to God and to each other.

# **Free Virtual Platforms for Group Meetings**

<b>ZOOM</b> <u>TUTORIAL</u>	SKYPE TUTORIAL	GOOGLE HANGOUT TUTORIAL	FACETIME CALL TUTORIAL
Features 300 Max Participants Screen Sharing Recording Capability IM Chat in Meeting	Features 20 Max Participants Screen Sharing Recording Capability IM Chat in Meeting Background Blur (if you don't want people to see what needs to be cleaned up behind you)	Features 25 Max Participants Automatic Focus Screen Sharing Intelligent Muting Share Options in Call IM Chat Capability Recording Capability	Features 32 Max Participants Works on most Apple devices Record video calls Transfer video calls from computer to phone mid-call
Pros  Mobile and desktop capabilities  Works with all OS  Free signup	Pros  Mobile and desktop capabilities  Works with all OS  No signup  No downloads  Join meeting via shared link	Pros Integrated with Google ecosystem Mobile and desktop capabilities Works on most OS	Pros  Apple mobile and desktop capabilities  FaceTime call from group message conversation  No signup
Cons  The free version only allows for 40-minute meeting duration for 3 participants or more  No toll-free dial-in numbers  Need to download plugin prior to use	Cons Small participant max	Cons  Need a Google account to access (free account creation available)  Does not work well with non-Chrome web browsers  No recording capability	Cons  No IM chat during call. Done through messages  No screen sharing Only works on Apple devices
Conclusion  Best option for larger groups	Conclusion  Easiest setup option for smaller groups with various Mobile and PC operating systems	Conclusion  Best option for those familiar with Google  Probably the worst option for most groups	Conclusion  Best option for groups who already have an iPhone group conversation going with blue text bubbles