

Central

Watch Party Guide

Fall 2020

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VISION

I believe that God's love is the only thing that is going to change our world. It is only when we learn to love God and accept His Love for us in order to truly love others, that we find the "life" we were created for. There will never be situation that can hinder us from experiencing this love if we choose to fully walk in it. The words of Jesus, "Come Follow Me," are both an invitation and a challenge to actively participate in and express this powerful truth in every area of our life.

In response to our current world situation, we as a church family are committed more than ever to engage in this Great Objective. Regardless of the restrictions and limitations we may feel, the power of the Church exists in even greater measure in how we react in times of difficulty and challenge. This is going to require faith, courage, and commitment. But, together, I believe that we can change the negative narrative that so many in our culture have bought into. Jesus came to set us free and He called you and I to be a part of His Story in seeing lives changed by the power of His Love.

We are inviting you to participate in an initiative this fall to see 3000 followers of Jesus engaged with God and each other, reaching friends and family with His love. We are going to do this together by being committed to leading, joining, and inviting others to watch parties all across the Niagara Region.

I want you to imagine with me what would be possible if 3000 people were connected to God and to each other every week, exploring what it would truly look like to fully live in this love. What kind of impact do you think we could have on the Niagara Region? In a world that is increasingly divided and filled with hate, what would it look like for followers of Jesus to be inspired and encouraged weekly to actively live in His way toward each other, our neighbours, and even our enemies?

This is our dream. For this reason I am inviting you to participate in our initiative to see God's love win in our hearts, our homes, and in our world again.

Pastor Bill Markham

LEADING A WATCH PARTY

At our church we feel that there are two keys to lead anything successfully.

Stay Connected

- To Jesus – talking to Him every day, reading the Bible and obeying what it says.
- To other believers – walking with others who build you up.
- To those who need Jesus – offering genuine love, service, listening, and invitation.
- To church leadership – Communicating regularly with your pastor or coach about your watch party.

Lead Well

- Model – as you imitate Jesus, you model the journey to becoming the leader you want others to be.
- Own the process – the vision, the environment, the experience, the timeline.
- Develop – disciple by pouring into others who can pour into others.
- Learn – be active and open to grow in your capacity as a leader.
- Ongoing Support & Training - You can connect with your area pastor to help you navigate challenges, debrief, encourage, and more.

HOW TO HOST A WATCH PARTY

For the Fall of 2020 due to COVID 19 and the Stage 2, Phase 3 parameters to gather indoors in groups up to 50 while physical distancing, we are inviting people all across our region to either host or join a watch party. You can run a watch party by gathering your friends once a week or a few times a month to watch an online service together, for spiritual conversations, to pray for each other, and connect in relationship. As you grow in your ability to run great watch parties here are several things to keep in mind.

Clarity

- Be clear about your watch party with those you invite.
- Do you know the health recommendations for both hosts and attendees?
- How many times you are going to host a watch party. One time, once a week, bi-monthly etc.
- What day and time are you hosting? Which Sunday experience will you watch live together?

Plan

Plan an agenda of the entire group gathering from start time to end time. Write the agenda down for yourself. You could watch the 9am, 10:30am, or 12pm experience together.

Here is a sample agenda:

- Arrive 10:15 am
- Watch Together 10:30 am to 11:20 am
- Discussion & Prayer 11:20 to 11:40 am
- End Time 11:40 am

Guest List

Make a list of friends who you would like to invite to your watch party. Realize that people will have different responses to your invitation. Some will want to come, and others will be more cautious. Respect where each person is at.

Start and End on Time

It promotes respect for all participants who have set aside time in their busy schedules to be with you.

Environments

A clean, comfortable, safe setting increases the possibility of success.

Join in

Participate by sharing group roles, listening, joining in on discussions, being respectful of different opinions, and dealing with conflict.

Fostering Discussion

Learning to get different voices discussing the material is important. Sometimes that means encouraging people to share in an open way. Sometimes it's methodically getting people to share one by one. When conversations get awkward, leaders are invited to change the subject, or simply say that it is not the time or place for that conversation. Or, refer to the need for the group to have an outside perspective on the topic from a pastor.

The Bible & Prayer

Using the Bible during the discussion is important as you root ideas in truth. Prayer at the end of each gathering helps to focus people on God.

Curriculum

For this season we are asking all watch parties to watch our online experiences together. They can be found here:

- Website - www.centralcc.ca/watch
- Youtube - www.youtube.com/CentralCommunityChurchStCatharines
- Facebook - www.facebook.com/centralcc

Technology

All hosts of watch parties need to be able to show the online experience on their television set. This includes a reliable network and audio.

Children

All ages are welcome to watch the online experiences with their families and participate in discussion and prayer.

Outside Help

If you get in a situation where you need additional help, feel free to connect with your area pastor.

Niagara West (Jordan, Beamsville, Grimsby) – andrewrutledge@centralcc.ca

St Catharines – janetcollins@centralcc.ca

Thorold, Fonthill, Welland, Port Colborne – mikehicks@centralcc.ca

Niagara Falls, Stevensville, Ridgeway, Fort Erie – jeffreytuffour@centralcc.ca

Niagara on the Lake – jonathangallo@centralcc.ca

Young Families – gp@centralcc.ca

Sr. High Youth & Young Adults – mattcolbourne@centralcc.ca

Jr. High Youth – madifalk@centralcc.ca

COVID-19 PRECAUTIONS FOR HOSTS AND ATTENDEES

We recommend that all hosts follow government guidelines outlined by the Province of Ontario and the municipality where the watch party is being held. All watch party hosts should inform their guests where to find the current regulations and guidelines. Here is a summary of the most common areas of concern.

Attendance

Please do not attend a watch party if you are feeling sick or have any of the symptoms associated with COVID19. See the Niagara Region screening tool in the appendix.

Physical Distancing

Guests are encouraged to maintain 2 metres apart for the duration of the watch party for those outside of their social circle.

Hands

Frequent hand washing and sanitation is encouraged.

Ontario Stage 2, Phase 3 guidelines here: <https://covid-19.ontario.ca/index.html>
 Reopening guidelines: <https://files.ontario.ca/mof-framework-reopening-province-stage-3-en-2020-07-13-v2.pdf> (Please read the entire document, pages 10-13 provide the most specific guidance on gatherings)

Local Municipal Guidelines

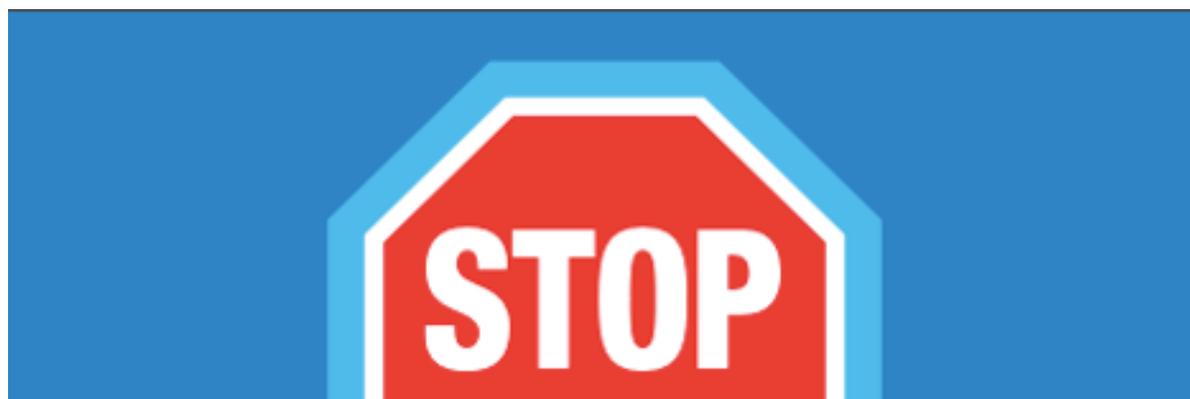
- Fort Erie <https://www.forterie.ca/pages/COVID19News>
- Grimsby <https://www.grimsby.ca/en/covid-19.aspx>
- Lincoln <https://lincoln.ca/coronavirus-pandemic>
- Niagara Falls <https://niagarafalls.ca/>
- Niagara on the Lake <https://notl.org/COVID-19>
- Port Colborne <http://portcolborne.ca/page/covid-19>
- St Catharines <https://www.stcatharines.ca/en/livein/covid-19.asp>
- Thorold <https://www.thorold.ca/en/city-hall/coronavirus-covid-19.aspx>
- Wainfleet <https://www.wainfleet.ca/en/town-hall/covid-19.aspx>
- Welland <https://www.welland.ca/hottopics/Covid-19.asp>
- West Lincoln <https://www.westlincoln.ca/en/index.aspx>

WHAT'S NEXT?

It's time to start. Here are your next steps.

1. Plan your watch party.
2. Invite your guests and share the Niagara Region screening tool with them.
(See appendix #1)
3. Gather together and enjoy a great watch party.
4. We'd love to celebrate your watch party with you. Let us know you're watching together by sending us a picture of your group. Text "watch" to 905-937-5610.

APPENDIX 01



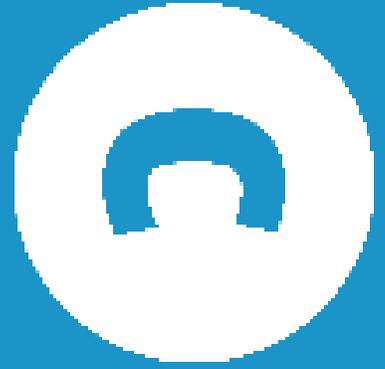
Do you have any of the following right now?

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1 Fever/chills | 6 A runny or congested nose (not allergies) |
| 2 New cough or a cough that is getting worse | 7 Unusual level of fatigue |
| 3 Difficulty breathing | 8 Unusual headache |
| 4 Shortness of breath (even when sitting or walking regularly) | 9 Nausea / vomiting, diarrhea, or loss of appetite |
| 5 Sore throat | 10 Feeling unwell for an unknown reason |

If the answer is YES to any of these, please leave this building and contact your health care professional immediately.

niagararegion.ca/health

Niagara  Region



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