



HOUSE CHURCH GUIDELINES **(UPDATED 9/24/20 - Updates in RED)**

This document is here to provide you with the most up to date information Genesis Boyne has for House Churches. We will update the document as soon as new information arrives, is prayed through, and decided upon.

Who:

Whoever wants to show up. You are highly encouraged to invite a friends, family, and neighbors. While each House Church will have limits on how many people it can hold, we have no intention of limiting the amount of people who want to come and worship God. If a House Church grows past its desired number, we will both praise God for his generous blessing and multiply to more House Churches.

When:

House Churches will currently run from September 20 through December 31, 2020. We will reevaluate House Churches in preparation for 2021 based on the circumstances at that time.

Where:

1) Dear Meadows House Church • Sunday • 11am @ 315 E. Division St. Apt. 14

- Childcare Unavailable
- Group Max: 8
- Note 1: Takes place at Dear Meadows apartment complex.
- Note 2: Mask required to enter Dear Meadows in order to get to the House Church apartment, but not required in the House Church.
- Note 3: House Church is open at 10:45am for coffee and fellowship.
- Contact: raderanneke@gmail.com

2) Silver St. House Church • Sunday • 11am @ 130 Silver St.

- Children Welcome
- Group Max: 12
- Note 1: Distancing subject to participants involved, which means masks if anyone wants them worn.
- Note 2: House Church wide meal monthly.
- Note 3: House Church is open at 10:50am for fellowship
- Contact: nancy@builtindesign.net

3) East St. House Church • Sundays• 5-7pm @ 513 S. East St.

- Childcare Available
- Group Max: 10 adults & 12 kids (separate meeting spaces)
- Note 1: Meal 5-6 pm, Worship 6-7pm
- Note 2: Will meet outdoors as long as the weather holds
- Note 3: House Church is open at 4:50pm for fellowship.
- Contact: andrew.a.moul@gmail.com

4) Online House Church • Sunday • 11am @ <https://meet.google.com/ajg-dehr-mcd>

- Childcare Unavailable
- Group Max: 12
- Note: This House Church is designed for people who desire to worship at home, yet would like to participate in the community aspects of a House Church. It will be a Google Meet that will open at 10:45am and take place during and after the YouTube worship and teaching. The link will be the same each week.
- Contact: emily@mtu.edu

As House Churches multiply, please check genesisboyne.com for new locations.

If you would like to host a House Church, please email genesisboyne@gmail.com.

If you have questions or want help choosing a house church, please email genesisboyne@gmail.com

How:

COVID Safety - Each House Church will be given the CDC recommended guidelines for meeting as a faith based organization you'll find here: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/community/organizations/index.html> Each House Church will then determine how best to proceed with their individual House Church. These decisions will include, but not be limited to: masks, social distancing, number of attenders, childcare, food, sanitation.

What About:

- 1) **Location Changes** - The host homes have agreed to host the House Church every Sunday from September 20 to December 31. This means the location will be

- constant, with the exception of illness. If the host can not be there for a Sunday, another person in the group will host at the regular House Church location.
- 2) **Children's Worship** - Each House Church will be responsible for determining their role in childcare and Children's Worship. Genesis Boyne will provide a weekly prerecorded Children's Worship that will include a puppet show with a Bible Story, prayer, and silliness. Genesis Boyne will also provide a link on that video page's description that will include the verses covered, questions to ask children, and a prayer. How this is used is up to each House Church.
 - 3) **Music** - Each House Church will be responsible for determining the music for worship based on the group in attendance. This could range from finding videos online, to using Genesis Boyne worship team videos (coming in October), to having someone from the group play, to a cappella singing, etc.
 - 4) **Sermon** - The sermon will be prerecorded and then broadcast on Genesis Boyne's Youtube Channel to the other groups. The Pastor's location will rotate between House Churches, as to allow pastoral care and interaction on a regular basis.
 - 5) **Giving** - For safety purposes, giving can be done in two ways:
 - 1) Online: genesisboyne.com/give
 - 2) **Via Check: Please mail your check to Genesis Petoskey, 1124 Northmen Dr, Petoskey, MI 49770. Please write Boyne General Fund in the memo section.**
 - 6) **Small Groups** - Each House Church will determine how they will proceed with Small Groups, as the House Church members will also function as the Small Group members.
 - 7) **Outreach** - Each House Church will determine how to participate in at least one outreach each season (Fall Season: September 20 - December 31). The details of that outreach will be dependent upon the House Church.
 - 8) **Multiplication** - When a House Church has successfully surpassed their desired number of attenders, the group will multiply into two House Churches, thus allowing more people to participate in worship.
 - 9) **Bulletins** - GenesisBoyne.com will have a button on the front page that will have the contents of a bulletin needed for your Sunday morning worship experience. The button will include the sermon title, sermon notes (when applicable), and any other pertinent information for the week. This will keep us paper free and allow everyone to easily access the information on their own volition.
 - 10) **Prayer and Care** - Each House Church will be in charge of prayer and care for the members of the House Church. The method of relaying prayer and care needs will be determined by the House Church. House Churches will be encouraged to send prayers and praises on to Prayer and Care Ministry Leaders Mike and Anneke at raderanneke@gmail.com and they will pass it along to our church wide Prayer Team.
 - 11) **Communication** - Communication will come through the House Church. Each House Church will determine the best method of communication for that group. We will also use our website, genesisboyne.com, and our Facebook as our means of communicating larger scale changes.
 - 12) **A Long Range Plan** - Much like the rest of the world, we are developing our plan as quickly as we can with the understanding that much in the world is changing. This makes long range planning unfeasible at this moment. We will maintain House

Churches through December 31, 2020, the our leadership will prayerfully consider the direction for Genesis Boyne beyond that. We trust that God will take care of us in this time and that know he has everything under control.

Why:

35 One of them, an expert in religious law, tried to trap him with this question:
36 “Teacher, which is the most important commandment in the law of Moses?”
37 Jesus replied, “‘You must love the Lord your God with all your heart, all your soul, and all your mind.’ 38 This is the first and greatest commandment. 39 A second is equally important: ‘Love your neighbor as yourself.’ 40 The entire law and all the demands of the prophets are based on these two commandments.”

Matthew 22:35-40

The final, and most important, question is why. Why do we do church? The Church (global and historical) has always existed to love God, to love others, and to help others love God. No matter what the circumstances and situations this should never change.

Closer to home, Genesis Boyne specifically exists in this community to, “be a contemporary church, engaging families through fellowship, discipleship, and outreach.” That is our specific niche in the community, and why Genesis Boyne is here. We are here to be the contemporary church in town. We seek to engage this community around us with the love of God. Our heart is to target families, specifically young families, with the opportunity to hear the gospel both corporately and personally. The way we that we engage others, specifically families, is through fellowship, discipleship, and outreach. First and foremost is fellowship because we are a family. We care for people and get to know them by being a home for them, a community they can depend on. That’s why people come and that’s why people stay. We then begin a discipleship process through Small Groups. Close knit families that can do life together, study the Bible, pray and care, have meals, and do outreach as one family unit. Finally is outreach, that we continue to reach out to this community and show them that we care, bringing them into fellowship, which starts the process anew.

That is who we are and that is why we do church. If we feel like anything impedes that then we have to reevaluate our viability as a congregation. Our church aims to do everything we can to keep the mission of The Church and the vision of Genesis Boyne alive in Boyne City. There is a lost and dying community here and Genesis Boyne has the opportunity bring hope into an otherwise hopeless situation. Therefore, it is our plan to continue to go and engage Boyne City with the gospel of Jesus Christ.

If you have any questions please email us at genesisboyne@gmail.com