

GCC Covid Report

October 22, 2020

We just became aware of statements made by local media outlets inferring that we were downplaying the recent Covid 19 Outbreak here at the Church.

Nothing could be further from the truth!

Early on when sending a Constant Contact (October 2nd) about the Outbreak to our members we noted that the numbers did not appear large. The number of known positives at that point as given by the Nashua Public Health Department was 3. Despite what appeared to be low numbers, we immediately went Virtual so as to mitigate further exposure.

Below is a linear-sequential timeline:

10 Days of Prayer: Held on GCC Campus September 19-28th

September 30th First Cases of Covid Positive reported

October 2nd - Church decides to go virtual immediately

October 2, 2020

Mass Text Sent to GCC Members:

This note is to inform you that for this Sunday, October 4th, we will be shifting back to virtual church only. Services will be available at regular hours on our Website, FB & You Tube

October 2, 2020 Constant Contact Sent to GCC Member



To: Gate City Church Family

From: Pastor Paul and GCC Pastoral Staff

Re.: Sunday October 4th Service Changes

Greetings,

Trust you are all well and thriving in the Lord.

This note is to inform you that due to a few of our members testing positive for Covid-19, we will be shifting back to **"Virtual Church Only this Sunday October 4th."**

Do understand these are not large numbers. Understand too that these are not Gate City Church Staff, only some who may have attended this last week.

After careful examination and prayer we determined it best to mitigate everyone's exposure.

All four services - Worship and Messages - will be Broadcast as usual and made available on the Gate City Church Website, on FaceBook and on our YouTube Channel.

8:30 American Church
10:30 American Church
1:00 Slavic Congregation
5:00 Brazilian Congregation

Thank you so much for your understanding and prayers.

Pastor Paul

p.s. Our hope is that this change would be for this week only.

October 5th

Reports of Additional Covid Positives: Numbers thought to be 7

October 6th

Covid letter sent to GCC community

COVID-19 UPDATES

To: Gate City Church Family

From: Pastor Paul and GCC Pastoral Staff

Re.: Covid Updates

Greetings,

Earlier we sent a note to inform you that due to some of our members testing positive for Covid-19, we've shifted back to **"Virtual Church Only."**

Our concern at this point is to do everything we can to mitigate everyone's exposure and keep everyone healthy.

After conferring with Medical Professionals and the City Health Department, we wish to strongly encourage anyone who may have been to our recent meetings to be very diligent to socially distance. We also want to encourage everyone to get Covid Tested. The City has offered free testing today at the Elm Street Parking Garage from 3-5 pm. This is a drive through test / no need to register, simply show up.

On a personal note: I was compromised last Thursday when I had lunch (not in Nashua) with a friend who tested positive the following day. Though I have since tested negative, I am in a Quarantine situation for 14 days.

Appreciate you and want you to know that we'll get through this with the help of the Lord.

Pastor Paul

October 7, 2020

Mass Text Sent per request of Nashua Public Health Department

“The Health Department asks any who were seated in the Balcony on the night of the 27th to get tested.

October 7, 2020

A Covid Screening held on the Gate City Church Campus

October 8, 2020

GCC Press Release October 8th:

To: WMUR and Other Media Outlets

From: Pastor Paul Berube, Gate City Church Re: Covid Outbreak at Nashua Church

This note is to say that we are deeply troubled by the recent outbreak that's seemingly connected to recent prayer meetings at our Church.

Our number one concern has been and will remain the safety and welfare of our people. Our hope and prayer is that whoever has been affected by this would recover quickly.

Please understand that we diligently endeavored to follow *State of New Hampshire and CDC Protocols*:

Social Distancing signage in place upon entering the Building Notations stating that anyone with symptoms should not enter RN's taking people's temperatures upon entering the Building Hand sanitizing required prior to proceeding to the auditorium Masks required when proceeding to and from their seats Social Distancing with seating arrangements

(more than half of the auditorium and balcony seating physically removed)

Also: Each and every seat, hand rail, door knob were sprayed with disinfectant before and after each service

Those things said, it's clear something still came through, and for that we're deeply grieved.

Please note that we want to thank the Head of Nashua Public Health Bobbie Bagley and her team. They have been extremely helpful in setting up quick response testing for those exposed.

Our posture has been and will continue to be to fully cooperate and do everything possible to mitigate any further spread of this virus.

Thank you for joining with us in prayer for those impacted by this Outbreak. With the help of the Lord we'll get through this ! Psalms121:1-2

October 8, 2020

Mass Text Sent to GCC Members:

“Any who have not yet been tested and would like to take advantage of free testing can come out to our lot on Friday the 9th from 3:30-5:00 pm

The City asks that you schedule appointments below:
<https://form.jotform.com/CityNashuaIT/gate-city-testing1009>

October 9, 2020

A second Covid Screening held on Gate City Church Campus

October 12, 2020

Mass Text Sent to GCC Members:

As a continued follow-up to the recent Covid infections, our Nashua Public Health Office has asked us to help them by answering an official survey. To the extent you are comfortable doing so, we ask that you help stem the spread of Covid 19 by completing the Health Office's Survey.
<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/5VZVY18>.

October 19, 2020

Two weeks later, this last Monday October 19th at 2:59 pm we were notified by the Nashua Public Health Department that Contact Tracing efforts brought to light as many as 39 connected to the Church Outbreak.

Our understanding is these numbers included those who attended our meetings, family members and others.

(At this point we are not able to verify these numbers as the Nashua Public Health Department is not able to release names to us because of confidentiality issues.)

October 21, 2020

Nashua Mayor Donchess mentions GCC Covid Outbreak Numbers

October 22, 2020

The Manchester Union Leader and WMUR reported on GCC Outbreak.

Summary Statement:

Please understand that GCC was compliant with CDC and State of NH Guidelines

Please understand too that GCC fully cooperated with the Nashua Public Health Department

Lastly, the health and safety of each and everyone involved has been and is still preeminent in our hearts and minds.