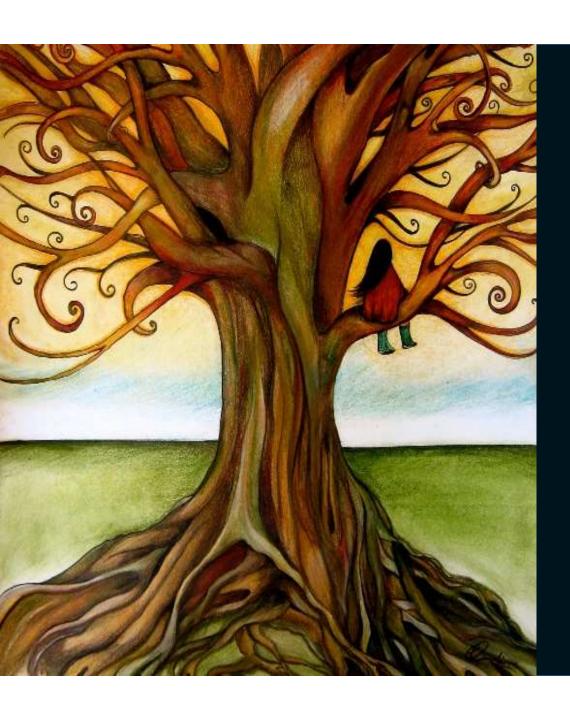
# Session 1: Approaching the journey out of lockdown

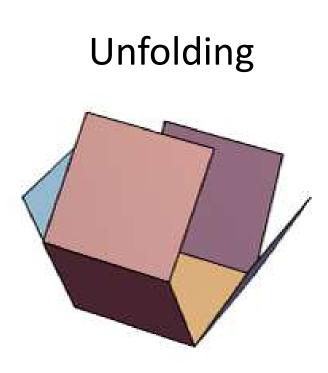
Refined Fanning the flame



"Hope deferred makes the heart sick, but a dream fulfilled is a tree of life."

Proverbs 13:12

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Be ready to make the most of the gradual easing of restrictions to grasp the opportunities of what each new freedom allows you to do.





Treat the gradual easing of restrictions as your friend in setting a sensible pace for a return to what feels like a more natural rhythm of church life.





Focus on getting core things back first, beginning with the restoration of worship, followed by gatherings which promote reconnection with those groups with whom ties have been most weakened.





Give yourself permission to acknowledge that not everything you did before should recommence and that there may be new and different ways of reshaping core activities of church life.





Think about the possibilities of extending church activities and facilities to others beyond our own membership as a way of sharing God's grace.





Anticipate that progress may be haphazard, with unexpected gains to be gratefully celebrated, but also likely changes of pace, maybe even pauses, on the journey.









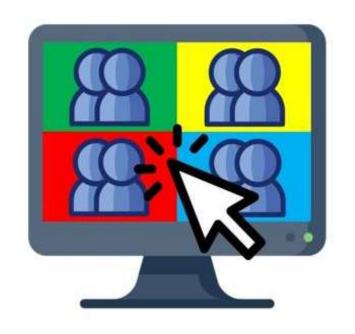








# **BREAKOUT ROOMS**



What simple messages do your congregation particularly need to hear to approach the journey out of lockdown well?



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