


# Emerging from Covid

*8 Steps your Ministry  
Must Consider*

**With people spending  
more on vacations  
and personal items  
post Covid, what will  
happen to your  
church budget?**

4:11pm CST

Saturday, January 11


American 

# Departures

Destination	Flight	Code Share	Dep	Gate	Status
Akron-Canton	AA 3126		8:30pm	G14A	Cancelled
Albuquerque	AA 3915	RJ 7473	8:35pm	L6B	Cancelled
Amman Jordan	RJ 264	AA 7202	7:00pm	M15	On Time
Appleton, WI	AA 3600		5:05pm	G13	Cancelled
Atlanta	AA 1682	QF 4851	5:10pm	K6	Cancelled
Atlanta	AA 2366	GF 6870	7:00pm	K10	On Time
Austin	AA 2208	GF 4203	5:00pm	H12	On Time
Baltimore-Washington	AA 3267	CX 7744	6:45pm	H2	Cancelled
Bloomington, IL	AA 3737	IB 4169	10:11pm	G7	Cancelled
Boston	AA 1172	RJ 7146	6:30pm	H14	Cancelled
Cedar Rapids-Iowa City	AA 3450	BA 4398	4:53pm	G8	Cancelled
Cedar Rapids-Iowa City	AA 3855	IB 4180	8:45pm	G20	Cancelled
Champaign-Urbana	AA 3858	BA 4441	4:50pm	G14	Cancelled
Champaign-Urbana	AA 3692	IB 4456	6:50pm	G20	Cancelled
Charlotte, NC	AA 18	BA 6834	4:35pm	H8	On Time
Charlotte, NC	AA 483	BA 5374	6:25pm	H15	Cancelled
Charlottesville, Va	AA 3116		8:57pm	L10C	Cancelled
Cincinnati	AA 3587	IB 4772	5:10pm	L1A	Cancelled
Cincinnati	AA 3467	BA 5649	6:45pm	L23	Cancelled
Cleveland	AA 3625	IB 4470	5:30pm	G1A	Cancelled
Columbus, OH	AA 4219	BA 5430	4:15pm	L4	Cancelled
Columbus, OH	AA 3804	BA 5365	5:15pm	L23	Cancelled
Columbus, OH	AA 3785	BA 5586	6:25pm	L10C	Cancelled
Columbus, OH	AA 3485	BA 5265	8:13pm	L6B	Cancelled
Dallas Fort Worth	AA 2346	IB 4986	3:50pm	H10	Now Boarding
Dallas Fort Worth	AA 2501	LA 6626	4:55pm	H11B	Now 5:23pm

SAMSUNG



A photograph of a shark swimming in clear, deep blue water. The shark is positioned in the center-left of the frame, facing right. The water is very clear, with some small white specks visible. The overall scene is calm and serene.

**Sharks! Don't Panic!**

**If a financial  
crunch comes to  
your church this  
year**

# **Streamline Ministry**

- ***Streamline ministry to maximize impact.***
- ***Eliminate all non-essential spending now.***
- ***Implement a phased plan to reduce costs.***
- ***Realign spending based on the church's new financial reality to conserve cash.***
- ***Identify release valves (planned reductions) based on predetermined financial benchmarks***

# Preparedness & Best Practices

- *Onboard donors into the church's electronic platform.*
- *Delay expansion plans until a feasible path forward can be identified.*
- *Increase cash reserves to navigate potential disruptions. Demonstrate the ability to withstand a business disruption for 90 days.*
- *Identify how the church will make payments, i.e. via the operating budget or a blend between operating budget and ongoing capital campaign receipts? If blended, how long will it take for the annual operating budget to absorb the payments without the campaign?*

# Identify Growth Options

- *What will your ministries real estate needs look like post covid?*
- *Will an investment in additional square footage help you meet your growth objectives.*
- *Ministries adjusted quickly to the new realities of worship while using very small real estate footprints.*
- *We expect people will continue to worship in person. Do you believe that additional space is what is needed?*
- *Lenders, like churches, are learning in this season.*



# Down Payments

- *Be prepared to invest into your expansion.*
- *Your down payment requirement will be based on total project costs less loan available.*
- *Following your down payment, the church should have 90 days of cash reserves. Do not rely on your cash reserves as a down payment source.*

# **Identify your Borrowing Capacity**

- *Connect with a church-specific lender to determine how much you can borrow.*
- *Project costs should not be greater than cash on hand at time of settlement + loan available.*
- *The earlier you know these numbers, the better informed you will be.*

# **Capital Campaigns**

- ***Capital campaigns are an essential component to facility expansion.***
- ***Connect with a professional consultant and identify what your ministry could raise over a 2-3 year period.***
- ***You will have a ramp up period.***

# **Architect/Contractor Discussions**

- *Now you can engage with your architect.*
- *The knowledge you have gained will help your leadership team identify healthy financial boundaries.*

# Reconnect with the Lender

- *After you talked with the architect/builder, you have an understanding of costs. Reach back to the lender. Make sure you set your numbers at the right level.*
- *Avoid designing a facility you cannot reasonably afford.*
- *Engage several lenders to identify the best fit for your circumstances. This strategy works with all major vendors.*
- *Engage the lender early and often. Open and ongoing conversations strengthen your completion success—good planning based on financial realities.*