

# Health Recommendations for ECV Sunday Summer Backyard Gatherings

---

Adults and school-age kids *wear masks*

Seating will be *six feet apart*

*Hand sanitizer* will be available

Communion will be in *prepackaged cups*

There will be no shared food, but *feel free to bring your own snacks*

Chairs provided by hosts will be *wiped down with appropriate cleaning products before and after*

As you've heard time and time again this season, if you or someone you've spent time is sick, *then please stay home!*

ECV SUNDAY SUMMER  
Backyard Gatherings

---



[www.elmcityvineyard.org](http://www.elmcityvineyard.org)

## Sunday Reflection

Creating a space in this first backyard gathering to acknowledge and process another change in the way we experience church.

These, or similar questions can be asked at whatever place in the meeting feels right.

- How has the physical separation of the last few months been for you?
- How did you respond to the idea of reuniting for backyard gatherings?
- What feels like gift? What feels like loss?

Take a moment and sit together in God's presence with the feelings that arise. Give space for expression.

- In prayerful silence, consider your own desires—what do you want and need from this gathering?
- What gift you are being invited to give?

Briefly share responses.

## **River of Life**

I've got a river of life  
Flowing out of me  
Makes the lame to walk  
And the blind to see  
Opens prison doors  
Sets the captives free.  
I've got a river of life  
Flowing out of me.

*Spring up O well, within my soul  
Spring up O well and make me whole  
Spring up O well and give to me  
That life abundantly*

## **Give Us Clean Hands**

We bow our hearts  
We bend our knees  
O Spirit, come make us humble.  
We turn our eyes from evil things.  
Oh Lord, we cast down our idols.

*Give us clean hands, give us pure hearts.  
Let us not lift our souls to another.*

O God, let us be  
A generation that seeks  
Seeks your face, O God of Jacob.

## **Better Is One Day**

How lovely is Your dwelling place,  
O Lord Almighty;  
My soul longs and even faints for You.

For here my heart is satisfied  
within Your presence;  
I sing beneath the shadow of Your wings.

*Better is one day in Your courts,  
Better is one day in Your house,  
Better is one day in Your courts,*

*Than thousands elsewhere.*

One thing I ask, and would seek:  
To see Your beauty,  
To find You in the place Your glory dwells.  
(2x)

My heart and flesh cry out  
for You, the living God,  
Your Spirit's water to my soul;

I've tasted and I've seen  
Come once again to me,  
I will draw near to You,  
I will draw near to You.

Better is one day...  
Than thousands elsewhere

## **We Exalt Thee**

We exalt thee  
We exalt thee  
We exalt thee  
O Lord

May it be a sweet, sweet sound  
In Your ear

## Acts 6:1-7

New Revised Standard Version (NRSV)

<sup>6</sup> Now during those days, when the disciples were increasing in number, the Hellenists complained against the Hebrews because their widows were being neglected in the daily distribution of food. <sup>2</sup> And the twelve called together the whole community of the disciples and said, "It is not right that we should neglect the word of God in order to wait on tables. <sup>3</sup> Therefore, friends, select from among yourselves seven men of good standing, full of the Spirit and of wisdom, whom we may appoint to this task, <sup>4</sup> while we, for our part, will devote ourselves to prayer and to serving the word." <sup>5</sup> What they said pleased the whole community, and they chose Stephen, a man full of faith and the Holy Spirit, together with Philip, Prochorus, Nicanor, Timon, Parmenas, and Nicolaus, a proselyte of Antioch. <sup>6</sup> They had these men stand before the apostles, who prayed and laid their hands on them. <sup>7</sup> The word of God continued to spread; the number of the disciples increased greatly in Jerusalem, and a great many of the priests became obedient to the faith.