

# GCI Denominational Celebration 2021

## Kick-Off Gathering **Agenda**



The kick-off gathering is a time for relational connection and to prepare hearts and minds to receive what God has for us throughout the Celebration. Keep this purpose in mind as you plan. How will you create a space of intentional connection with God and each other?

Here is a suggested agenda to assist you in the planning process. We have also provided you with icebreaker and game ideas for your convenience.

### **Introductions and Icebreakers** (30 minutes)

Invite participants to introduce themselves. Choose an icebreaker or get-to-know you game to play as a group.

### **Group Sharing** (20 minutes)

Invite participants to share something they hope for the Celebration. What are they most looking forward to? What do they hope to learn?

### **Prayer** (20 minutes)

Spend time in prayer in preparation for the Celebration. Pray for the watch parties and participants in your region and around the world. Ask the Holy Spirit to prepare you to receive and respond. Pray as a group or in pairs.

### **Fellowship** (20 minutes)

Provide time for unstructured fellowship.

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## Icebreakers & Games



### **This or That?**

How to play: Players take turns asking and answering questions in the form of “this or that?” Examples:

- Mountains or beach?
- Sushi or tacos?
- Sunrise or sunset?
- NBA or NFL?
- Coffee or tea?
- Sweet or savory?

Each member asks a short question, and then indicates their preference. It's easy, simple, and a great way for players to get to know each other. It's fun to compare likes and dislikes, too!

### **Mix & Match Fun Facts**

How to play: Gather a set small items that comes in a variety of colors (example: M&Ms, Marbles, confetti, etc.). Place a random mixture of the item into small cups or containers and give each group member a cup. If playing virtually, ask each group member to randomly choose a color(s) from the selection presented.

Assign each color a topic for sharing. Each person will share fun facts based on the colors they receive in their cup/choose. Choose how many items to place in each cup/how many colors each person should choose based on how many fun facts you want each person to share.

Example:

Yellow = a food you like

Blue = a TV show you watch

Red = a fond memory

Green = what brings you joy

*Person A* gets a cup with 2 red marbles and a blue marble: they share two fond memories and one TV show they watch.

*Person B* chooses yellow and green: they share a food they like and something that brings them joy.

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## Icebreakers & Games



### **Rose, Bud, Thorn**

How to play: Ask the group to envision a rose. A rose has a flower that has bloomed, a bud that is about to bloom, and a thorn that can prick you. Ask the group to think about their week and share something that is represented by a rose, bud, and thorn. Rose = something beautiful or good that happened, bud = something you are looking forward to, thorn = something that was challenging

### **Chart Your Week**

How to play: Think back and draw a line graph to represent your past week. Consider the high points, the low points, moments of inspiration, moments of despair, leveling off times, and where you are now. The line will probably be a mixture of straight, slanted, jagged, and curved lines. After you've drawn it, share it with the group.

### **Ten Things in Common**

How to play: Find ten things the group has in common with every other person in the group. The commonalities must have nothing to do with work. Obvious commonalities like 'we are all wearing clothes' and 'we all have a nose' don't count!

### **Get to Know You Questions**

How to play: Ask a series of get to know you questions and invite the entire group to answer. The questions can be serious, random, silly, interesting, etc. The facilitator should have a set of questions prepared in advance. They can also invite group members to suggest questions.

Examples:

- What was the worst haircut you ever had?
- If you were a wrestler, what would your entrance theme song be?
- What's the best piece of advice you've ever been given?
- What would the title of your autobiography be?
- What was your favorite game to play as a child?
- If you could teach a class on one thing, what would you teach?

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## Icebreakers & Games



### **Pictionary & Charades**

How to play: Pictionary and charades are both team guessing games. In Pictionary, teams guess what their player is drawing. In charades teams guess what their player is acting out.

Prepare words/phrases and drawing supplies to play with:

In person: Write random words/phrases on slips of paper (1 word/phrase per paper) and mix them together in a bowl. Prepare drawing materials for Pictionary.

Virtual: Use an online word generator or assign random words to players via private Zoom chat. Enable the whiteboard feature on Zoom for Pictionary drawing.

Put the group into two teams. Players take turns drawing (Pictionary) or acting out (Charades) their randomly selected word/phrase. The player's team tries to guess what they are drawing (Pictionary) or acting out (charades). If they guess correctly before time is up, the team gets a point.

For both Pictionary and charades, the player may not use words or sounds to give hints to their teammates. Each player's turn is timed, usually 30-60 seconds. Alternate players from each team. Continue until all players have had a chance to play, or longer. Have fun!

### **Online Game Platforms**

There are many online platforms for groups to play games virtually. Some suggestions to get you started:

- Jackbox: Can be played in-person or virtually. Best for 4-8 players. Host shares game screen and players connect via web browser (phone or computer). Game requires purchase by the game host (free for players).
- Kahoot: Offers free, pre-made trivia games. Host shares screen and players connect via web browser.
- Jeopardy generator: Create your own Jeopardy board using an online Jeopardy generator. Be creative with buzzers and teams!
- Bingo: Create your own bingo board using an online Bingo generator. Think of creative prizes for Bingo winners!