



基督教新加坡长老会
THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN SINGAPORE

UEN No.: S61SS0155A

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11th February 2020

Dear Senior Ministers and EDC/Session Clerks,

Re: Novel Coronavirus (2019-nCov) - Synod's Advisory to Member Churches

The Government has raised the Disease Outbreak Response System Condition (DORSCON) to ORANGE on 7th February 2020.

In response to this, we would like to advise all member churches to ramp up the precautionary measures at services and meetings, and implementing the following arrangements with immediate effect:

1. Sunday services and church activities

All regular worship services will continue as usual even though MOH's advice is, "*Large-scale events may continue as planned, but with additional precautions*". As for other regular activities, such as Sunday School, Cell/Fellowship Meetings, etc., we will leave it at the discretion of the Senior Minister, EDC / Session Clerk of member churches to decide.

Please avoid large and frequent social group gatherings. Host conference calls or video chats as alternatives for face-to-face meetings, if possible.

2. Temperature Screening

Implement temperature screening at the entrance of all services. Those that are discovered to be unwell will not be allowed to join the Worship Service. They will be asked to put on a surgical mask and go to see a doctor.

For those unable to attend the services due to the ongoing precautionary measures, we would encourage member churches to make arrangement for live streaming of their weekend services on their websites and/or social media channels.

3. Holy Communion

For Holy Communion, you may consider using Holy Communion elements which are pre-packaged. Servers are to wear disposable hand gloves and surgical masks.

会正 : 黎志强牧师
书记 : 陈光辉牧师
财政 : 江春斌长老

Moderator : Rt Rev Keith Lai Chee Kheong
Stated Clerk : Rev Darryl Chan Kong Fai
Treasurer : Eld Kang Choon Pin

4. Practise good personal hygiene

Be vigilant with personal hygiene practices. Please refrain from handshaking or any bodily contact in the exchange of greetings.

5. Hand Sanitizers

To be applied by the Elders on the disposable hand gloves before administering the Holy Communion. We would recommend member churches to place adequate numbers of hand-sanitizers and soap dispensers at the church entrance and toilets respectively.

Members are encouraged to stay home if they have recently returned from China or are on Leave of Absence. If they are unwell with coughing or sneezing, please seek medical attention immediately. Please let your pastors/ leaders know so that we can pray for you.

MOH's recommended personal hygiene practices can be found in the link below:

<https://www.moh.gov.sg/2019-ncov-wuhan>

6. Follow updates from the proper Authorities

Please urge members to stay informed and to refrain from passing on unconfirmed information from unofficial sources and social media sources (WhatsApp, Facebook etc). The following links are some of the recommended sources:

- www.moh.gov.sg/2019-ncov-wuhan;
- <https://www.channelnewsasia.com/news/topics/wuhan-virus>;
- <https://www.mom.gov.sg/wuhanvirus>;
- <https://www.who.int/westernpacific/emergencies/novel-coronavirus>;
- <https://go.gov.sg/whatsapp>

7. Printable prevention resources

Here are websites where you can find posters to download and display, to help with the publicity of the appropriate prevention measures in your church:

- www.who.int/emergencies/diseases/novel-coronavirus-2019/advice-for-public ;
- www.cdc.gov/handwashing

Please share these resources with the members of your church and track the websites for up-to-date information on this outbreak and prevention.

Let us join our hearts to pray for God's mercy and protection for everyone, especially the people in China. May the Lord also grant them His peace and comfort during this difficult time.

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Above all, let us stay calm and know God is in control. May we stay united as a denomination and be the salt and light in this season.

Blessings



Rt Rev Keith Lai
Synod Moderator
45th & 46th Session
Synod Executive Committee



Rev Darryl Chan
Synod Stated Clerk
45th & 46th Session
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