



# 基督教新加坡长老会

THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN SINGAPORE

UEN No.: S61SS0155A

132 Sophia Road, Singapore 228186

Tel: 63385837 Email: office@presbysing.org.sg

6 May 2020

Dear Senior Ministers and EDC/Session Clerks,

## Re: Recommendations made by the Synod Exco in view of the prevailing COVID-19 situation

Greetings in Jesus' name!

Our Synod Exco has made the following recommendations at their meeting via Zoom last Thursday, 30th April 2020:

### 1. e-Giving

In view of the severe impact caused by the COVID-19 situation, we encourage Senior Ministers to preach the message of the stronger helping the weaker brethren. You may challenge your members to continue giving or even up their giving (if they are able to).

We also understand that some churches may be struggling with receiving offerings and pledges from their members during the Circuit Breaker period. It is no longer practical for members to give in the traditional manner – by cash and cheques. Some churches have already implemented other methods of receiving offerings and pledges, such as by:

- 1.1. Bank transfer – Church members may transfer money electronically from their bank accounts to the church's bank account. Besides giving the church's bank account number, the church also needs to provide the UEN to their members for verification purposes.
- 1.2. PayNow/PayLah/Pay Anyone – Church members may use the bank's App in their mobile phones to transfer the money to the church's bank account. For this method, the church must first set up a dedicated mobile line.
- 1.3. Credit Card – Church members may use their bank credit cards to transfer the money to the church's bank account. The church must first set up this facility with a bank. A small fee is payable to the bank based on amounts transferred.

### 2. Financial Aid

Some churches have already set up Love Offering Fund for their members whose livelihoods are affected by the COVID-19 situation. You may also inform your members of the availability of other financial aids from other organisations/agencies, including:

#### 2.1. Emergency Relief Scheme (ERS)

The Emergency Relief Scheme is provided by the Presbyterian Community Services to both church members and the public. Application form and more information can be obtained from:

<https://pcs.org.sg/services/community-support/ers/>

会正 : 黎志强牧师  
书记 : 陈光辉牧师  
财政 : 江春斌长老

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Stated Clerk : Rev Darryl Chan Kong Fai  
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## 2.2. Funds and grants from the government:

Information on the available funds and grants from the government can be obtained from:

<https://www.supportgowhere.gov.sg/>

## 3. Mental Wellbeing

We encourage the pastors and church leaders to pay attention to members that may be severely affected by the COVID-19 situation. Some may have developed severe depression or even suicidal. Besides the pastoral care and counselling provided by the pastors and church leaders, members may also seek help from the following counselling services:

### 3.1. Singapore Bible College – School of Counselling (SOC)

The SOC Students offer FREE counselling. Member may reach them by clicking on this link:

<https://bit.ly/Covid19-Outreach>

### 3.2. Presbyterian Counselling Associates

This team of professional counsellors are members from local Presbyterian churches. Their fees are at half rate during the Circuit Breaker until 1 June 2020.

Members may reach them by clicking on this link:

<https://bit.ly/RequestPCA-Counsellor>

We are praying with you for God's mercy and deliverance from the COVID-19 pandemic.

Blessings

Rt Rev Keith Lai  
Synod Moderator  
45<sup>th</sup> & 46<sup>th</sup> Session  
Synod Executive Committee

Rev Darryl Chan  
Synod Stated Clerk  
45<sup>th</sup> & 46<sup>th</sup> Session  
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