



COVID-19 Update

Tuesday 20 October 2020

Dear friends in Christ,

The Queensland Government has released an updated [Movement and Gathering Direction](#), [Aged Care Direction](#) and an updated [Restriction on Business, Activity and Undertaking Direction](#).

What's changed?

- The number of people who can gather publicly in a non-restricted area has been increased to 40.
- A number of operational resources have been updated. Please refer to the updated documentation below. All updates have been highlighted to easily identify the changes. The documentation includes:
 - [Checklist and Safety Management Plan for church](#)
 - [Safety Management Plan for resuming congregational activities](#)
 - [Safety Management Plan for resuming children's youth and brigade activities](#)
 - [Safety Management Plan for resuming Playgroups, Mainly Music and Toddler activities](#)
 - [Safety Management Plan – Resuming meetings in homes](#)

What's stayed the same?

- Physical distancing (minimum 1.5m) is the best way to reduce the spread of COVID-19, coupled with regular hand washing.
- Whilst there has been changes made to Public Health Directions, we are required to follow the [COVID Safe Industry Plan for Places of Worship](#) and [Food Services](#).
- The maximum number for a funeral or wedding is 100 people regardless of whether it is indoors or outdoors, noting that physical distancing and number capacities within the area calculation also exist.
- Capacity calculations for indoor spaces remain unchanged.

Christmas

As the Christmas season nears, congregations should be considering what adjustments they need to make to their normal events in order to make them COVID safe. After the year that 2020 has been, wherever possible, it is important that these events continue in order to bring some joy into the lives of those in our communities. It is recommended that all events have a separate COVID event plan in place. Also, if you anticipate up to 500 people per day attending an indoor event or 1,000 per day for an outdoor event, a [COVID Safe Checklist](#) must be completed, in addition to the safety management plan for the event. If you anticipate more than these numbers, additional requirements are to be met. Refer to the Synod COVID-19 [Safety Management Plan for church events](#) for guidance.

Warden briefings

The COVID Warden briefings continue each Wednesday at 11am. They are very well attended and lots of information is shared. If you require a link to this voluntary meeting, please email COVID19@ucaqld.com.au. If you have not notified us of the name and contact details of your COVID Warden, please email them to COVID19@ucaqld.com.au.

Moderator induction

The induction service for Rev Andrew Gunton will be livestreamed on Thursday 22 October 2020 from the [Queensland Synod website](#). Members of the church are encouraged to watch this historic event which will commence at 7pm.

Our next COVID-19 update is planned for Tuesday 27 October 2020. Your questions or feedback about this update or COVID-19 are welcome—please email COVID19@ucaqlid.com.au.

My sincere thanks for your ongoing work and support as we navigate our way through this time.



Rev Heather den Houting
General Secretary
Uniting Church in Australia, Queensland Synod