



COVID-19 Update

Tuesday 24 November 2020

Dear friends in Christ,

We trust those that went to services over the weekend enjoyed the changes in restrictions that were put in place. We are reliably informed that more than 20 COVID Wardens attended an extra session last Friday to make sure that plans and proposals were in line with guidelines. This is particularly pleasing to see and evidence that as a church, we are committed to doing the right thing and protecting our members.

We all have a part to play in preventing an increase in COVID-19 cases in Queensland, particularly in the lead up to Christmas when we anticipate an increase in the number of interstate travellers. We must always remember to:

- Maintain physical distancing of 1.5 metres.
- Maintain good hand hygiene (washing hands or using alcohol-based sanitiser).
- Maintain good respiratory hygiene (coughing or sneezing into elbow).
- Maintain tracking, tracing and rapid response (keeping contact details for 56 days for each service and ensuring it is readily available if requested).
- Frequently clean and disinfect our spaces.

Social groupings

The changes to restrictions last week meant that social groups are now able to sit together during service, rather than just those who lived in the same household. To assist in identifying social groups, the COVID team has indicated that people that travel together to services in the same vehicle and extended family groups are good examples of groups that would be permitted to sit together. A degree of common sense should be applied to ensure the social groups do not become too large. There must be 1.5m physical distance between social groupings.

Ticketed seating

Ticketed seating provides a congregation with an ability to return to 100 per cent capacity. To be able to do this, the congregation must be able to identify where the seat is located and who is sitting in the seat. The best way to envisage what is required is to consider seating on an aircraft or at the theatre. The identification and record of who is in the seat must be completed before the person takes their seat. This information needs to be available at any point that it is requested by an enforcement officer. The records that must be maintained include the venue seating plan, and the contact tracing register for all attendees with the addition of their specific identified seat (e.g. Row C, Seat 5).

All attendees must remain seated during the service and are strongly encouraged to wear face masks when entering or exiting the building or at other times when unable to physically distance.

A ticketed seating venue will attract the attention of the community including enforcement officers. If you are considering moving to ticketed seating, please contact the COVID Team to ensure all requirements are able to be met.

Whilst the ticketed seating option allows 100 per cent capacity, congregations need to be mindful to accommodate those members and visitors who want to maintain physical distancing from others.

Cleaning

Despite the changes in restrictions, there have been no changes to cleaning requirements. Congregations must still apply the same level of care and rigour with respect to making sure their environment is cleaned and sanitised in accordance with the relevant safety management plans.

Operational updates

A wide range of operational documents have been updated this week in light of changes to restrictions.

The updated documents include:

- [Safety management plan for church services](#)
- [Safety management plan for operating church events](#)
- [Safety management plan for resuming congregational activities](#)
- [Safety management plan for resuming Men's Shed activities](#)
- [Safety management plan – Operating markets, car boot sales or street stalls](#)
- [Safety management plan for resuming indoor bowls](#)
- [Safety management plan for resuming children's, youth and brigade activities](#)
- [Safety management plan procedure for resuming Playgroups, Mainly Music and toddler activities](#)
- [Safety management plan – Resuming meetings in homes](#)
- [Safety management plan for operating food relief services](#)
- [Checklist and safety management plan for toddler activities](#)
- [Safety management plan for operating church café or refreshment services](#)
- [Safety management plan for church op shops and book shops](#)
- [Safety management plan for operating church hall or meeting rooms](#)
- [Assessing work for volunteers deemed persons to COVID-19](#)
- [Vulnerable groups – government guidelines](#)
- [Safety management plan for church – Presbytery office.](#)

Warden briefings

The COVID Warden briefings continue each Wednesday at 11am. They are very well attended and lots of information is shared. We would encourage Wardens to attend this week's briefing. 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.

Our next COVID-19 update is planned for Tuesday 1 December 2020. Your questions or feedback about this update or COVID-19 are welcome—please email COVID19@ucaqld.com.au.

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



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