



19 October 2020

Dear Church Family,

Welcome to issue **#21** of the South Queensland Conference Corporate Crisis Management Team communication.

We feel very happy about the news in Qld with further easing of restrictions. The churches have worked through these difficult months in a wonderful way and we are very proud of the hard work put into managing safety around COVID-19. We are especially proud of our teams that have lead our churches in compliance and the local church safety coordinators who have been proactive and active.

We need to keep in mind that while we have done well as a Conference, we are not out of the woods yet. We still have a responsibility to comply with the regulations that the Government has set out for us and follow the guidelines made available to us.

All churches are asked to follow the [COVID-Safe Industry Plan for Places of Worship](#).

The Crisis Management Team have agreed that with the easing of restrictions, permission may be now granted to churches, who wish to further their ministries with food services, to allow churches to re-open their kitchens under the following conditions:

- You must follow the [Retail Food Services Industry COVID Safe Plan](#)
- All cooking and preparing must be done in the church kitchen (no food to be pre-cooked or made at home) by the authorized and trained kitchen staff
- Church kitchens must meet the [General food safety requirements](#).

**[Note:** A charity or a non-profit community group that is selling or handling food is considered to be a food business under the Food Act 2006, and as such is required to meet food safety standards. This involves ensuring all food **handled**, sold or **given away** is safe and suitable for consumption and is compliant with the provisions of the Act and the Food Standards Code. ([Non-profit organisations](#))].

**Non-compliance** of the COVID-Safe Industry plans may incur an **on-the-spot fine** of **\$1,334** for individuals and **\$6,670** for corporations under the Public Health Act 2005 by the Public Health Officials.

Church indemnification cannot be provided and churches leave themselves personally exposed if they choose not to follow current regulations given by the Government and South Queensland Conference.

**Church board approved home** worship / bible studies / gatherings are required to implement the COVID-Safe Plan for Places of Worship in the home by the home owner(s)/ host(s):

- **ALL** requirements outlined in the COVID-Safe Industry Plan apply and are the responsibility of the person hosting the worship service in their home

**Seventh-day Adventist Church (South Queensland Conference) Limited**

400 Boundary Street, Spring Hill, QLD 4000, (PO Box 577, Spring Hill. QLD 4004) **E** [sqconf@adventist.org.au](mailto:sqconf@adventist.org.au)

**T** (07) 3218 7777 **F** (07) 3236 1305 **ACN:** 104 195 897 **ABN:** 23 104 195 897 **sq.adventist.org.au**

# Seventh-day Adventist Church™ South Queensland

- Special Density requirements and rules for determining maximum attendance apply where a home residence is being used as a place of worship. The requirements of both the most up-to-date [Places of Worship Industry plan](#) and the most up-to-date [Movement and Gathering Direction](#) will both apply, with the number of individuals permitted to attend a home worship service being limited to the lesser of the two.

## **Tithe and offerings:** Please use the flexible options for tithes and offerings

- Access to Electronic Giving (e-giving) via the internet website
- Access to e-giving by the new APP that can be easily downloaded to your mobile phone and/or ipad
- Details on Manual Credit Card Sheet that can be completed and emailed to us to allow for giving via credit or debit cards
- Access to Phone Service, should you wish to phone your credit card details through for our staff to assist you in your tithes and offerings
- Details for Direct Bank Transfers to our Conference bank account, should you prefer to give in this way
- Details on a personal Deposit system, available here at our Administration and Resourcing Centre (Spring Hill)
- Details on Mail Delivery for giving donations

## **Baptisms** may proceed, however you must comply with the following:

- Only 1 baptizing member in the baptismal font at a time with the pastor
- Water must be chlorinated with free chlorine at a concentration of 1mg/L, as a minimum. (Refer to Appendix 2 of [Water Quality Guideline](#)).
- Pastor and member to be in water for minimal amount of time (reduce the time spent in water to bare minimum)
- Physical distancing practices to continue:
  - i. Physical distancing 1.5 meters between people at all times
  - ii. No kissing, hugging and hand shaking

## **Church Communion Services:**

- No foot washing to be conducted. Services should be carried out as Agape meals due to inability to follow 1.5m social distancing practices and requirement for physical touch.

## **Children's Sabbath Schools and Adventurer or Pathfinder Activities:**

- Sabbath Schools and other children's programs run under the same requirements as Adults
  - 1.5m physical distancing at all times
  - Physical distancing 1.5meters between people at all times
  - Hand hygiene (washing hands or using alcohol based sanitiser)
  - Respiratory hygiene (coughing or sneezing into elbow)
  - Tracking, tracing, rapid response (keeping contact details for 56 days for each service)
  - Frequent environmental cleaning and disinfection
- All South Queensland Conference and AdSafe policy, procedures and guidelines apply

## **Seventh-day Adventist Church (South Queensland Conference) Limited**

400 Boundary Street, Spring Hill, QLD 4000, (PO Box 577, Spring Hill. QLD 4004) **E** [sqconf@adventist.org.au](mailto:sqconf@adventist.org.au)

**T** (07) 3218 7777 **F** (07) 3236 1305 **ACN:** 104 195 897 **ABN:** 23 104 195 897 [sq.adventist.org.au](http://sq.adventist.org.au)

# Seventh-day Adventist Church™ South Queensland

- **Note:** the Church environment is not the same as the School Environment and therefore cannot be treated the same way.

## **Weddings & Funerals:**

- A maximum of 100 people depending on the size of the venue – 1 person per 2 square metres, up to 50 people for venues or spaces of 200 square metres or less, and no more than 1 person per 4 square metres for venues or spaces of more than 200 square metres.
- No buffet meals allowed

Please see Queensland Government [Fact Sheet for Places of Worship](#)

## **Key Public Health Rules to continue:**

- If unwell, stay at home
- Physical distancing 1.5meters between people at all times
- Hand hygiene (washing hands or using alcohol based sanitiser)
- Respiratory hygiene (coughing or sneezing into elbow)
- Tracking, tracing, rapid response (keeping contact details for 56 days for each service)
- Frequent environmental cleaning and disinfection

## **ADRA South Queensland**

ADRA Australia projects, op shops and community centres are classified as essential services and as such are able to operate following the QLD State Government guidelines. Our projects have been provided with PPE equipment - face masks, sanitizer, and gloves - and actively encourage social distancing. The safety of our volunteers and clients is the main priority and we have adapted services to accommodate this. Should you have any concerns or questions please do not hesitate to contact ADRA Director **Irena Pule**.

## **Convention Centers / Camp sites**

The centers are open for Family camping, Caravan and Accommodation options following State Government Guidelines.

## **ABC Bookstores**

ABC book centers are open. All customers are expected to sanitise their hands prior to entering the stores and follow 1.5m social distancing rules with limited number of customers permitted in store.

## **Coronavirus cases update**

Today, zero new cases have been recorded. Queensland's total confirmed cases of Coronavirus is 1,164. Currently, Queensland has 4 active cases, 2 hospitalizations, 0 in ICU and 6 deaths.

Resource: <https://www.covidlive.com.au/state/qld>

## **Schools update**

Schools are fully opened with all students back in their classrooms and measures in place. Seventh-day Adventist Schools continue to release statements to parents informing them of any updates and changes.

## **Aged Care update**

### **Seventh-day Adventist Church (South Queensland Conference) Limited**

400 Boundary Street, Spring Hill, QLD 4000, (PO Box 577, Spring Hill. QLD 4004) **E** [sqconf@adventist.org.au](mailto:sqconf@adventist.org.au)

**T** (07) 3218 7777 **F** (07) 3236 1305 **ACN:** 104 195 897 **ABN:** 23 104 195 897 **sq.adventist.org.au**

# Seventh-day Adventist Church™ *South Queensland*

All Adventist Retirement Plus sites are now open to visitors on a booking basis and for those who can present with an up to date flu vaccination certificate.

Church members may access regular updates and latest communication from Aged Care CEO, Eric Anderson via the following link: <https://www.arplus.org.au/news/>

## **Conclusion**

We want to thank and affirm our Pastoral Team and their families for their ongoing work and support that they provide to church members and church ministry. We pray for God's peace and blessing upon you and all that you do during this challenging time.

Our staff remain committed to and work tirelessly in ensuring that our church members are connected, cared for and spiritually supported. We continue to play our parts in minimizing the risk of spreading COVID-19 and preventing a second wave from occurring. We keep our Nation and church community in daily prayer. Thank you for your co-operation and understanding, and for taking note of this update.

Yours sincerely  
SQC Crisis Management Team

## **Seventh-day Adventist Church (South Queensland Conference) Limited**

400 Boundary Street, Spring Hill, QLD 4000, (PO Box 577, Spring Hill. QLD 4004) **E** [sqconf@adventist.org.au](mailto:sqconf@adventist.org.au)

**T** (07) 3218 7777 **F** (07) 3236 1305 **ACN:** 104 195 897 **ABN:** 23 104 195 897 **sq.adventist.org.au**