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COVID-19

Frequently Ask Questions (FAQ)

Should in-person worship services be performed during the current state of affairs surrounding the COVID-19?

On March 16, 2020, Bishop Sally Dyck released communication indicating all in-person worship services are suspended until further notice.

With in-person worship services suspended until further notice, may in-person meetings, Bible studies or even choir practices be held?

In-person meetings inclusive of hosting Bible studies, choir practices, are highly discouraged.

We have a Food Pantry do we now just shut down due to governmental directives recommending non-assembly of groups of 50, 20, 10 people?

Food Pantry operations may continue at the Church's discretion. Cautionary steps should be implemented restricting clients from accessing the building premises. In line with scheduled operating hours, the distributed food items may be assembled and placed into plastic bags for clients to retrieve outside of the food pantry premises.

PADS...we cannot turn away clients!

PADS operations may continue at the Church's discretion. Cautionary steps should be performed restricting clients from assembling in groups of 10 or more persons in line with the recommended "six (6) feet" safe distance between persons.

We are scheduled to host PADS in the coming days; at the end of each session, we have been advised to conduct deep cleaning of the area used to host clients. Is deep cleaning cost covered under insurance?

No, any cost to perform deep cleaning stemming from COVID-19 is not covered.

A person participating in PADS and/or visiting the Food Pantry shows signs of COVID-19...what should be done?

Call the local medical hospital and provide the person's name and supporting information on the person's condition. Medical direction should be communicated by the hospital on the next steps to follow.

Please notify your District Superintendent and Dwayne Jackson at 312.783.5945, or via email at djackson@umcnic.org.

The Pastor was call to perform ministry services at a member's residence. Should the Pastor go to the member's residence and perform ministry services?

No, ministry services are not recommended be performed at member's residence.

Conversely, should the Pastor be contacted to perform ministry services at a hospital, long term nursing facility, and/or assisted living facility, precautionary medical attire should be obtained from the facility and worn.

A member's surviving family is requesting funeral services be held at the Church, should the Church host funeral services?

Funeral services normally entail persons assembling in groups thereby exposing persons to an unhealthy environment. Hosting funeral services during the current state of affairs is strongly discouraged.

Does the Conference maintain Business Interruption insurance to cover loss revenue streams that include titles, offerings, employee wages, preschool/daycare, camps usage/enrollment, etc.?

The Conference does not maintain Business Interruption insurance as the commercial insurance marketplace does not provide Business Interruption insurance coverage for loss revenue stemming from events derived from contagious diseases such as COVID-19.

A Church employee states they contracted COVID-19 and wants to file a Workers' Compensation claim.

Assemble the employee's information, circumstances wherein the exposure to COVID-19 was contracted, the name, and address of medical providers and dates of treatment.

The information should be assembled and reported to Hartford Insurance at 800.327.3636; policy #: 83-WEBT-9716.

Hartford Insurance will initiate investigation and adjudicate the claim.

SOURCES FOR HELPFUL AND ACCURATE INFORMATION

PLEASE COPY & PASTE THE LINK INTO YOUR WEB BROWSER FOR ACCESS

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC)

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/index.html>

White House - 15 Days to Slow the Spread

https://www.whitehouse.gov/wp-content/uploads/2020/03/03.16.20_coronavirus-guidance_8.5x11_315PM.pdf

CDC Guidance for Community and Faith-Based Organizations

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/community/organizations/index.html>

Symptoms

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/about/symptoms.html>

Illinois Department of Health

<http://www.dph.illinois.gov/>

Guidance for Community and Faith-based Organizations

<https://www.umcnic.org/media/files/Bishop/COVID-19%20Guidance%20for%20Community-%20and%20Faith-based%20Organizations%2002.28.2020.pdf>

Faith-Based Community Preparedness Checklist

<https://www.umcnic.org/media/files/coronavirus/faithbasedcommunitychecklist.pdf>

How the Rural Church Can Help During COVID-19

<https://www.ministrymatters.com/all/entry/10178/how-the-rural-church-can-help-during-covid-19>

World Health Organization (WHO)

<https://www.who.int/emergencies/diseases/novel-coronavirus-2019>

**SOURCES FOR HELPFUL AND ACCURATE INFORMATION - CONTINUE
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Coronavirus Information for Individuals and Organizations

<https://www.phly.com/rms/blog/Coronavirus.aspx>

Keeping your workplace safe

<https://www.umcnic.org/media/files/coronavirus/workplace-school-and-home-guidance.pdf>

OSHA quick reference card

<https://www.umcnic.org/media/files/coronavirus/Corona%20OSHA%20Card2.pdf>

What to do if you're sick

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/downloads/COVID19-symptoms.pdf>

Stop the Spread of Germs poster

English

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/downloads/stop-the-spread-of-germs.pdf>

Spanish

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/downloads/stop-the-spread-of-germs-sp.pdf>

JOURNEYS (PADs) | The Road Home and COVID-19

<https://www.journeystheroadhome.org/covid-19.html>

The FAQs will routinely be updated as questions are received and addressed.

The information listed herein is available on the NICUMC webpage as follows:

<https://www.umcnic.org/riskmanagement>

Please contact Dwayne Jackson at 312.783.5945 or via email (djackson@umcnic.org), should questions arise not addressed herein require attention.