GHUC News and Announcements 16 August 2020

Meetings

30 August 2020 Worship Committee 11am via ZOOM

COVID Safety Reminder

Remember to use the links in the Training Slides to find more information on the government and UCA websites.





Carefully review the training material sent out. Check the Expected Learnings to remind yourself and ask if you need assistance

Expected Learning Outcomes



- 1. Understand the requirement for a COVIDSafe Plan for Worship Services and the context of our GHUC plan
- Understand how to read and implement the GHUC COVIDSafe plan and the associated Work Instructions
- 3. Understand the available resources and where to find more information
- 4. Understand what the Church experience will be under the COVID restrictions
- 5. Understand the health implications for choosing to attend Church
- 6. Understand how to protect yourself with respect to COVID-19 and where to find information
- 7. Understand your individual duty of care to others and your responsibilities to comply with the COVIDSafe Plan and associated Work Instructions.

Remember to always maintain good hygiene, follow the guidelines when wearing a mask, pay attention to COVID safety and if you are over 70 then you should take extra precautions as shown in the poster







COVID-19 GUIDANCE NOTE

Update from NSW Premier

The NSW Government has announced that COVID-19 restrictions will tighten. Given the restrictions and curfew people of Victoria are facing reminds us the second wave is a real and very present threat to the health and well-being of people in NSW and the ACT.

Please pray for the people of Victoria, in particular in Melbourne as they face difficult weeks to come.

In reminding us that 'no border is impenetrable', the Premier of NSW has issued the strong recommendation that places of worship refrain from gathering face to face wherever possible. Should face to face worship be unavoidable, all participants are strongly urged to wear a face mask and to refrain from any form of singing.

The Premier of NSW stressed that while these recommendations are not compulsory, they are made to keep people safe and minimise the risk of further outbreaks.

The Premier of NSW concluded with saying 'I cannot stress how critical the next few weeks are.'

As a result, the Synod of NSW-ACT strongly recommends that:

- All congregations in NSW and ACT refrain from face to face worship at this time. Services should continue to be streamed or recorded to enable people to engage in worship.
- Should any congregation feel they must gather face to face, every participant should wear a face mask.
- No singing of any kind. This includes community, congregational or choir led singing. No singing applies even if people wear a mask.
- Baptisms to be postponed wherever possible.
- Third party hires and op shops remain under the oversight of the church council. In line with the Premier's recommendation, every attention should be given to ensure masks are worn (where physical distancing is hard to maintain and in settings where there is a high risk of transmission) and strict hygiene followed.

PRESBYTERIES

CANBERRA REGION

FAR NORTH COAST

GEORGES RIVER

ILLAWARRA

KOREAN

MACQUARIE DARLING

MID NORTH COAST

NEW ENGLAND NORTH WEST

PARRAMATTA NEPEAN

RIVERINA

SYDNEY CENTRAL COAST

SYDNEY

THE HUNTER

UAICC

Uniting Church Synod of NSW and ACT nswact.uca.org.au

222 Pitt Street, Sydney 2000 PO Box A2178, Sydney South 1235

Phone: 02 8267 4300 Fax: 02 9261 4359

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The Synod of NSW-ACT also asks that all congregations follow current government and territory requirements:

- People attending worship cannot exceed 100, subject to the 4 square metre rule.
- All attendees must provide their name and contact details to enable contact tracing.
- All churches engaging in any form of face to face gathering must have a Covid-19 Safe Plan and register as a Covid-Safe venue.
- People attending a wedding in a church building cannot exceed 100, subject to the 4 square metre rule. All attendees must provide their name and contact details to enable contact tracing.
- People attending a funeral or memorial service in a church building cannot exceed 100, subject to the 4 square metre rule.
 All attendees must provide their name and contact details to enable contact tracing.
- Those gatherings which are not classed as essential or involve physical activity should review their Covid safe plan to reflect the recent recommendations of the Premier.

We encourage people to stay home if unwell and get tested, maintain 1.5-metre social distancing and practise good hand hygiene. If people have symptoms they should immediately be tested and self-isolate.

It is vital that each of us do what we can to protect the people in our care and communities. Please pray for one another as we look forward to the day when we will be together again – healthy and safe.

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Update on Re-Opening

Based on the recommendations from NSW Government and the Uniting Church Synod, together with the increasing spread of infections in the community, the Church Council has determined that in the interest of safety, we will postpone the re-opening of the Church by initially one month and review on a monthly basis thereafter. This means that the Church will not re-open in September and we will

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now work towards a possible opening for worship in October. Further updates will be provided during September.

Please continue to collect the food and hygiene items for the JRS program...contact Julie for collection



Please see below a link to a **vacancy at Uniting Mission Education**, part of the Vital Leadership team, for a **Lay Educator for Ministry** role.

https://www.seek.com.au/job/50369868

As always please feel free to share this with your networks of family, friends and former colleagues.